

**PART 4**

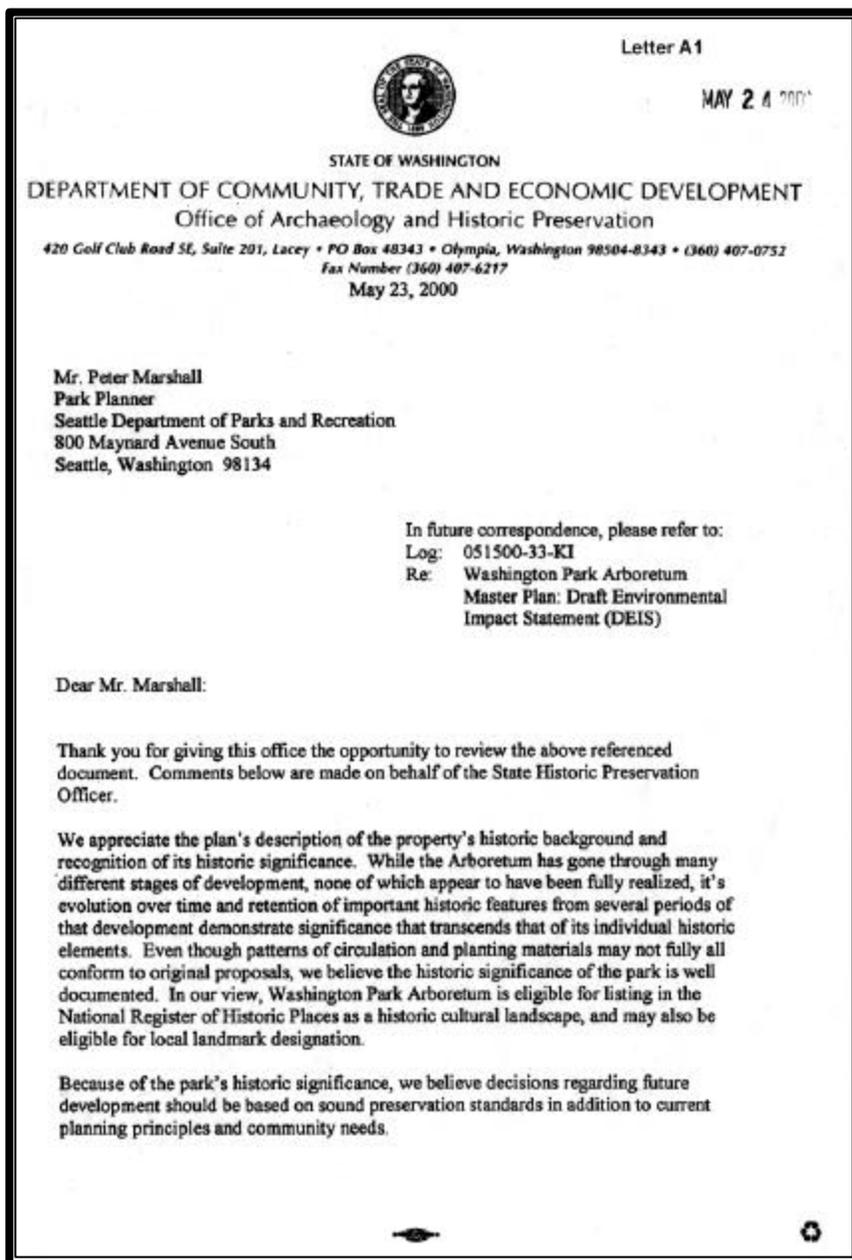
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**Comment Letters and Responses**

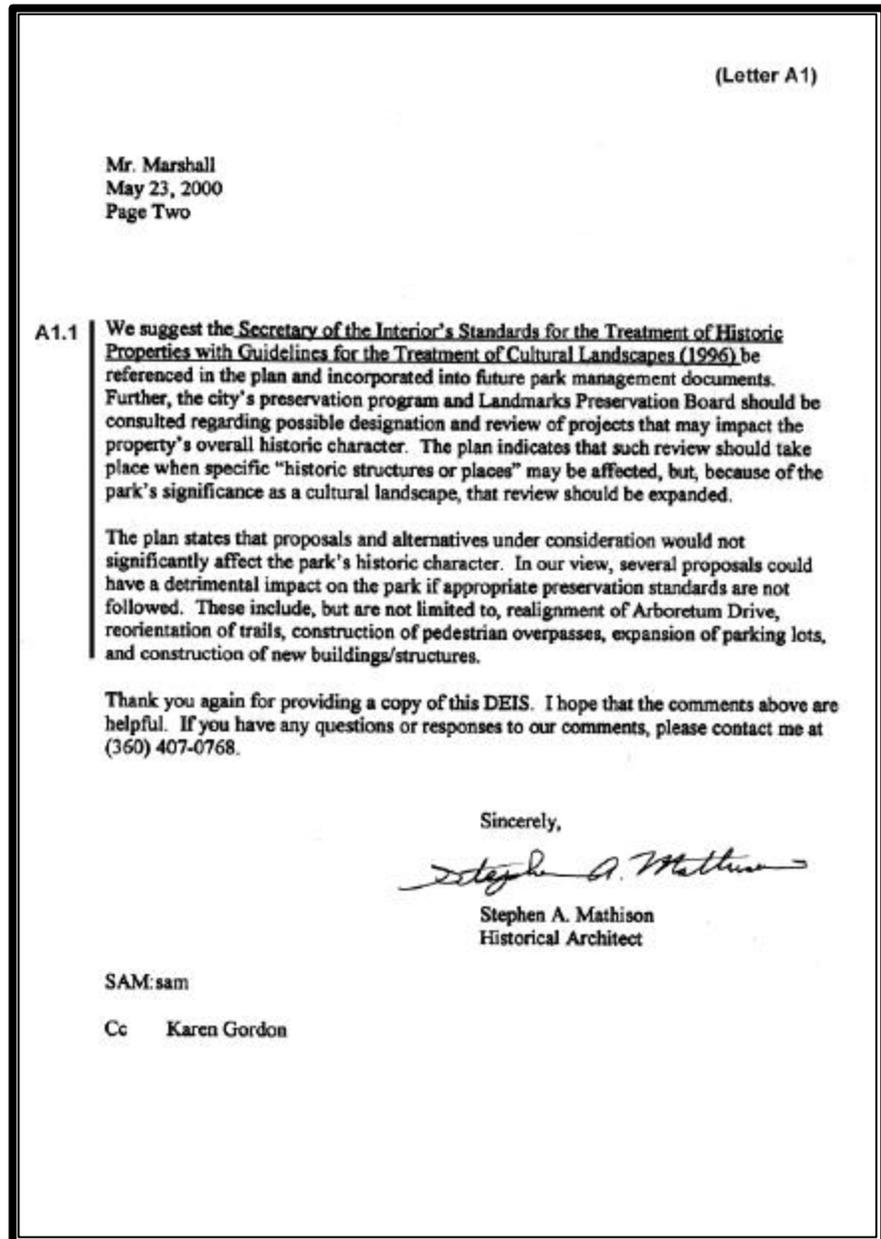
**Note:**

Some pages in this document have been purposefully skipped so that this document will copy correctly when duplexed.

A1. Washington Office of  
Archaeology and Historic  
Preservation; Department of  
Community, Trade, and  
Economic Development



**A1.1**—Thank you for the resource suggestion. Some additional assessment of the potential impacts has been included in the final EIS Historic and Cultural Resources section, and the conclusions with regard to potential significance have been revised. The guidelines you mention have been consulted and would be used in plan implementation. Specific discussion is included regarding the principles of rehabilitation that underlie some aspects of the plan. Because the project is programmatic, detailed designs are not available. If the project site is nominated as a landmark under Seattle regulations, additional information would be required to establish appropriate controls over the property. If the park has not been nominated prior to implementation of projects under the plan, additional historical information would be prepared for each specific project area. The guidelines have been added to the description of potential mitigation measures.



**A2. Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board**

**A2.1**—Some additional analysis of impacts on historic resources has been provided in the final EIS. The specific line that you noted has been revised. See the response to comment A1.1. Primary sources have been researched in producing the final EIS.

Letter A2



The City of Seattle  
**Landmarks Preservation Board**  
 700 Third Avenue • 4th floor • Seattle, Washington 98104 • (206) 684-0888

LPB 207/00

June 22, 2000

Peter Marshall, Park Planner  
 Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation  
 800 Maynard Avenue South  
 Seattle, WA 98134

Dear Mr. Marshall:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Washington Park Arboretum Master Plan. The Landmarks Preservation Board (Board) has reviewed the Historic and Cultural Resources section and would like to offer comments.

**A2.1** | The Board is concerned about the adequacy of the *History of the Washington Park Arboretum Site* as it relates to the literature review and believes it is deficient. The authors claim to base the information in that section upon primary sources, when, in fact, the listing includes no primary sources for its early history examination. Primary sources would include contemporary periodicals, newspaper accounts, the Olmsted Brothers' report to park commissioners and later plans, maps, photographs, and other City reports and plans. None of these are cited as part of the investigation. Two sources listed are secondary sources in that they are interpretive publications by Schmitz and Medbury. Only *The Arboretum Plan* and *A Collections and Landscape Master Plan for Washington Park Arboretum* can be considered primary sources and these focus on present and future conditions rather than on the historic context. An example of how the use of these sources is misleading and inaccurate is the reference to Broadmoor at page 150 that states: "At the turn of the century, the park contained a series of wagon roads that led into Broadmoor." The Puget Mill Company owned the site of Broadmoor and the housing and golf course were developed from 1923-27 and would not have existed at the turn of the century.

**Administered by The Historic Preservation Program, The Seattle Department of Neighborhoods**  
"Printed on Recycled Paper"

**A2.2**—The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) is aware of the section of Seattle's SEPA regulations and recognizes that, while DPR is not required to apply for landmark status, landmark nomination and review could help to resolve some concerns about the historic character of the site. Action to protect historic parks and boulevards is included in *Seattle's Parks & Recreation Plan 2000 Update*, and DPR is continuing to examine the possibility of landmark nomination of the Olmsted Brothers park system, of which Washington Park Arboretum is a part.

(Letter A2)

**A2.2**

The Board also believes the *History of the Washington Park Arboretum Site* section should be modified to reflect that despite the departure from the original Olmsted Plan, the Washington Park Arboretum has developed historic significance through its evolution and retention of important historic features from several periods of development. The Board believes that the *Applicable Regulations and Policies* section is adequate but is concerned that the *Mitigation Measures* section is deficient in that it fails to address the requirements at SMC 25.05.675(H)(2)(c..d.) that are referenced in the *Applicable Regulations and Policies* section and state:

2.c. For projects involving structures or sites which are not yet designated as historical landmarks but which appear to meet the criteria for designation, the decisionmaker or any interested person may refer the site or structure to the Landmarks Preservation Board for consideration. If the Board approves the site or structure for nomination as an historic landmark, consideration of the site or structure for designation as an historic landmark and application of controls and incentives shall proceed as provided by the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance. If the project is rejected for nomination, the project shall not be conditioned or denied for historical preservation purposes, except pursuant to paragraphs d. and e. of this subsection.

2.d. When a project is proposed adjacent to or across the street from a designated site or structure, the decisionmaker shall refer the proposal to the City's Historic Preservation Officer for an assessment of any adverse impacts on the designated landmark and for comments on possible mitigating measures. Mitigation may be required to insure the compatibility of the proposed project with the color, material and architectural character of the designated landmark and to reduce impacts on the character of the landmark's site. Subject to the Overview Policy set forth in Section 25.05.665, mitigating measures may be required and are limited to the following:

- i. Sympathetic façade treatment;
  - ii. Sympathetic street treatment;
  - iii. Sympathetic design treatment; and
  - iv. Reconfiguration of the project and/or relocation of the project on the project site;
- provided, that mitigating measures shall not include reductions in a project's gross floor area.

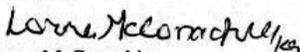
In reviewing the *Mitigation Measures* section, the Board was concerned that SMC 25.05.675(H)(2)(c) was not addressed and requests that that section be amended to delete the first "measure" and add the following:

Submit to the Landmarks Preservation Board an application for landmark nomination for the Washington Park Arboretum pursuant to SMC 25.05.675 (H)(2)(c).

(Letter A2)

We appreciate the opportunity to comment and look forward to reviewing the application for landmark designation for the Washington Park Arboretum in a timely fashion and prior to implementation of the Master Plan.

Sincerely,

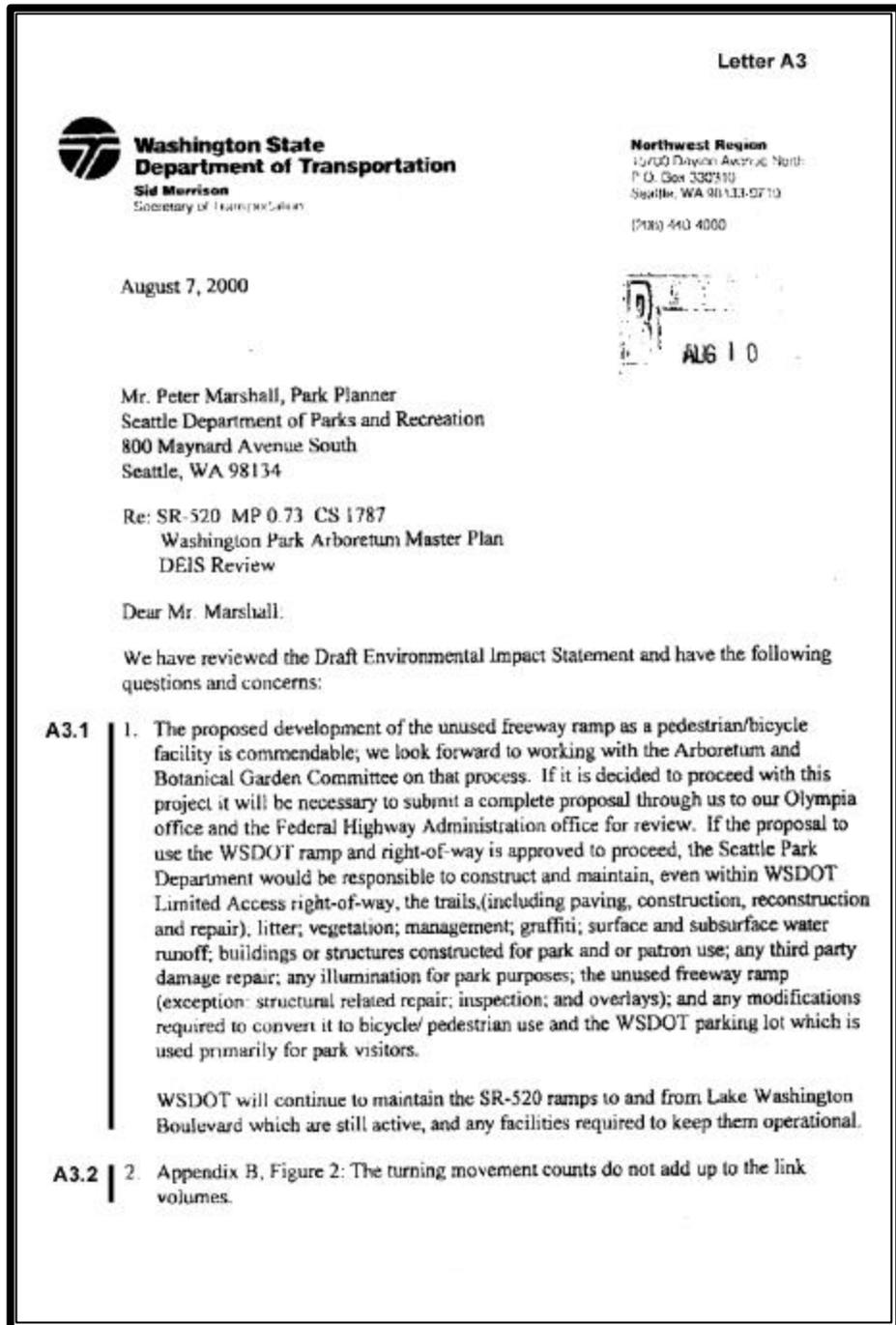
  
Lorne McConachie  
Chairman

Cc: Landmarks Preservation Board members  
Jim Diers, Department of Neighborhoods

**A3. Washington State  
Department of  
Transportation**

**A3.1**—Comment  
acknowledged.

**A3.2**—The reported link  
volumes were obtained  
from 24-hour machine  
(hose) counts, while the  
reported intersection  
turning and through  
volumes were counted  
manually. Given that the  
machine and manual counts  
were made on different  
days, and that the specific  
peak hour (i.e., the 60-  
minute period with the  
highest traffic volume) may  
be different for a roadway  
link and an adjacent  
intersection, the variations  
between the link and  
intersection counts are  
neither unexpected nor  
problematic.



**A3.3**—Actual average vehicle occupancy (AVO) data were not collected at the arboretum. In the absence of site-specific data, a typical AVO rate for social/recreational trips (2.5) was used for the purposes of analysis. While it is true that a lower assumed AVO would yield higher estimates of traffic volume and parking demand (as a higher AVO would yield lower traffic and parking estimates), the conservative assumption used in the traffic and parking analyses of concurrent full 100% utilization of all proposed park facilities more than compensates for possible variations in the AVO. Furthermore, reasonable variations in AVO would not create significant changes in traffic volume estimates and therefore would not change the results of the capacity/LOS analyses or the conclusions drawn from them.

**A3.4**—The future volumes were projected from existing volumes using an assumed 1% annual growth rate. The volumes shown in Appendix C, Figure 7 are these projected volumes rounded to the nearest 5 (in recognition of the limited precision of the projection method).

**A3.5**—The roundabout—and the reintroduction of access to the eastbound SR 520 on-ramp from southbound Lake Washington Boulevard—have been eliminated from the proposed master plan because of the potential for both onsite and offsite impacts. No further analysis is provided for this alternative.

**A3.6**—See the response to comment A3.5. The proposed master plan maintains the existing traffic flow pattern (see Figure 3 in the final EIS).

(Letter A3)

Mr. Peter Marshall, Park Planner  
August 7, 2000  
Page 2

**A3.3** | 3. Appendix B, pp. 30-31, Traffic Generation, bullet #2: How was the vehicle occupancy rate of 2.5 persons/vehicle determined? This seems to be an unreasonable goal, a more conservative rate estimate will increase the vehicle trip generation rate.

**A3.4** | 4. Appendix B, Figure 7: The link volumes shown do not calculate to the 1% per year growth rate stated in subparagraph IV.3.1 Traffic Volumes and Patterns.

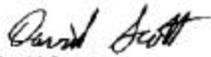
**A3.5** | 5. Appendix B, Montlake Boulevard/SR-520 Interchange, pp. 38-39: The report states that "the introduction of access to the SR-520 eastbound on-ramp from southbound Lake Washington Boulevard will have a significant impact on the intersections at the Montlake Boulevard/SR-520 Interchange." The impacts to these intersections need to be analyzed and reported.

**A3.6** | 6. Although a traffic circle (roundabout) would seem a valid solution to the three legged, (Lake Washington Boulevard/SR-520 East Bound Ramp termini/Foster Island Drive), connection, it does not seem to pencil out. If the traffic from the Lake Washington Boulevard on-ramp to EB SR-520 currently backs up into the intersection during peak periods, it is likely that it will also back up into the traffic circle under the same congested conditions. Once this occurs, the traffic circle will have no remaining capacity for the other legs and will probably cease to function.

We would like to see the traffic circle work in this situation, we have attempted to brainstorm solutions, but to no avail. If the Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee's consultant is able to develop a solution with which the traffic circle remains operable during all hours we would like to consider that for inclusion.

If you have any questions please contact John Sutherland, (206) 440-4914, my Area Operations team.

Sincerely,

  
David Scott  
Seattle/ North King Area Operations

DS:jbs

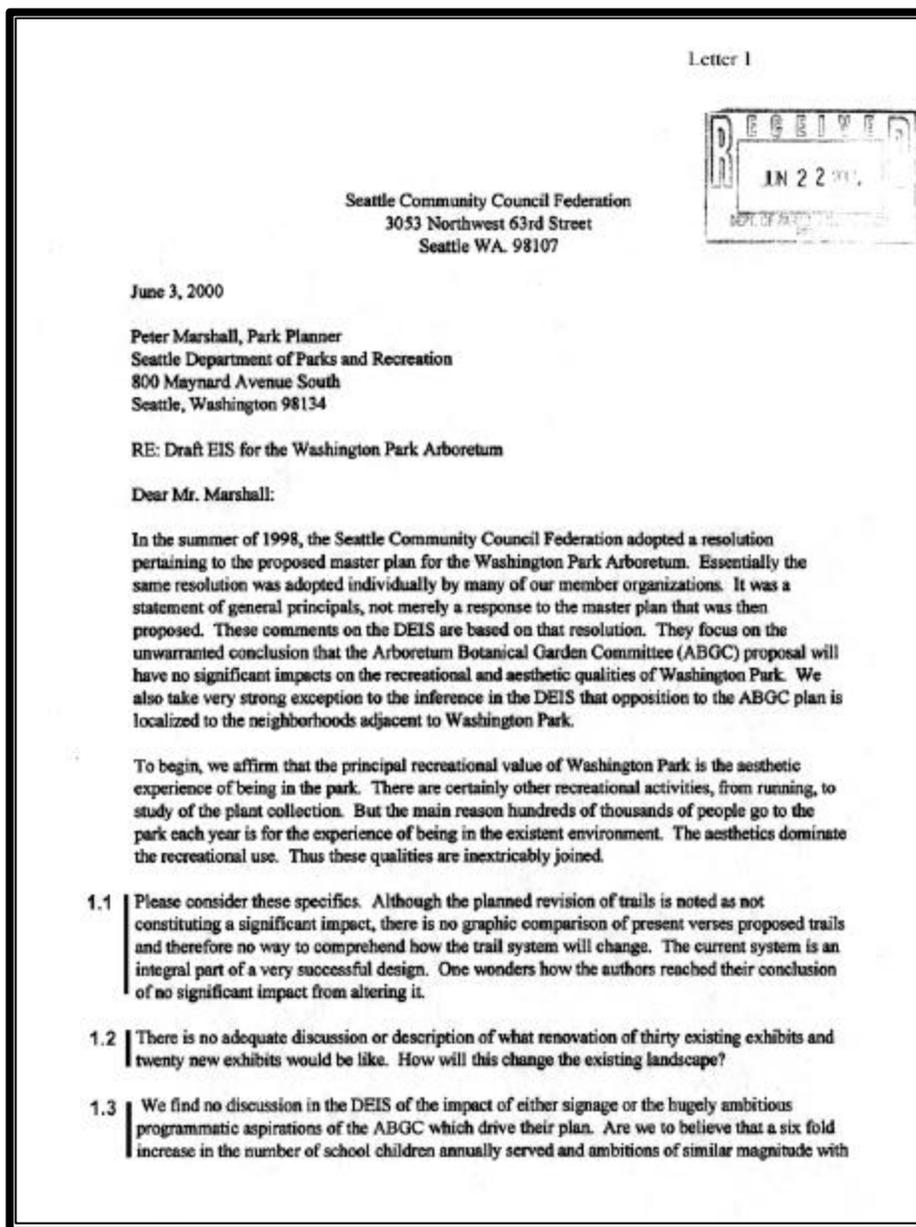


**1. Stephan Lundgren and Rick Barrett, Seattle Community Council Federation**

**1.1**—A map has been added in the final EIS showing existing trails (Figure 2) for comparison with proposed trails (Figure 3). The Recreation section of the final EIS also includes some additional discussion of changes proposed to the trail system including a comparison of existing and proposed trail miles. Because the plan is programmatic and not a project level design, precise changes cannot be defined at this time. The EIS assumes that most maintained trails would be surfaced with crushed rock, as are existing maintained trails, but some would also be regraded to meet ADA accessibility requirements. Exceptions include those in the Foster Island area, where planks and bark are used, and the Lake Washington Boulevard dual-use trail, which would be hard-surfaced for all-weather bicycle use.

**1.2**—Changes to the landscape are summarized from the Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee (ABGC) proposed master plan. See Appendix A, p. 2–10, Collections and Exhibits, for greater detail.

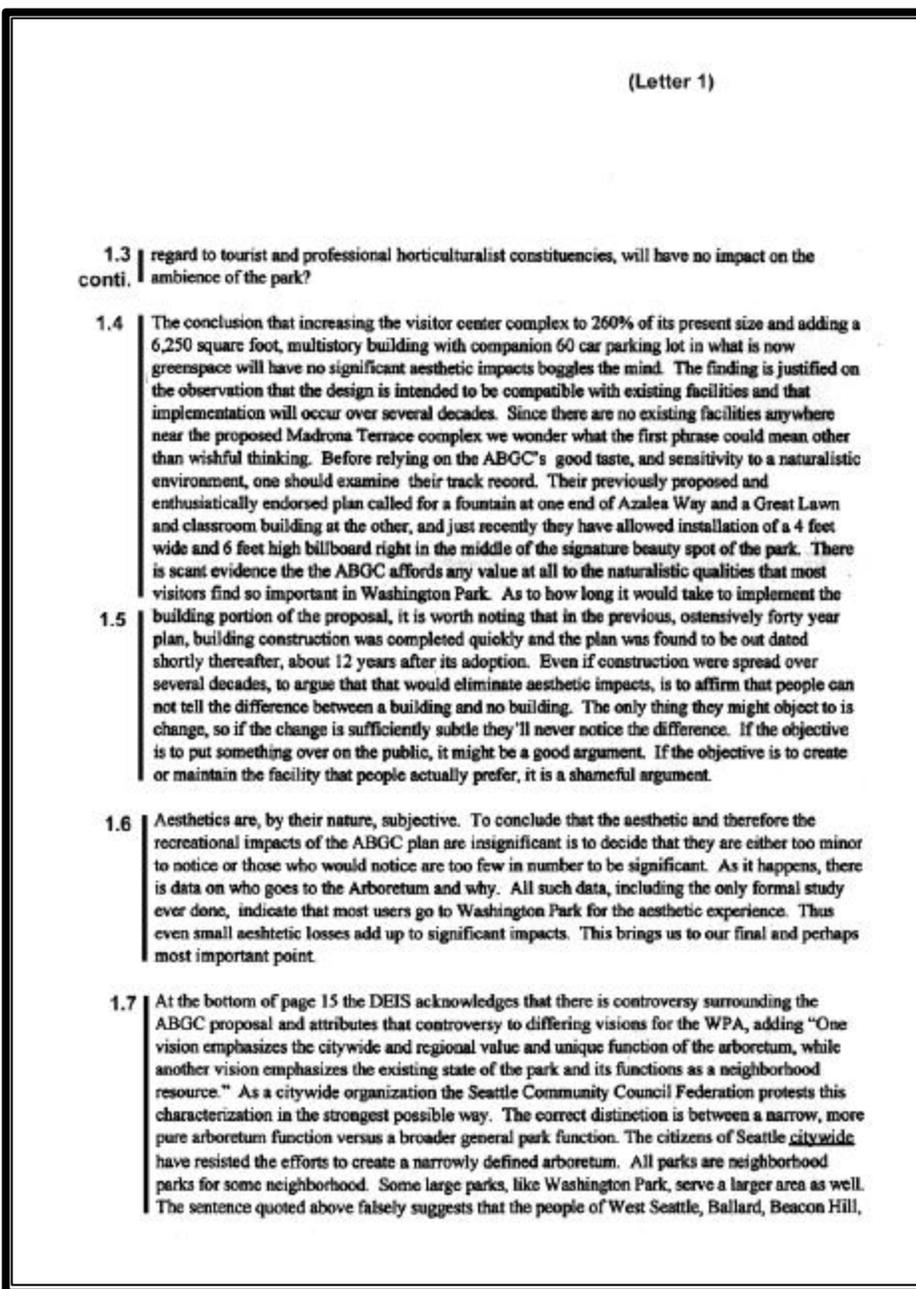
**1.3**—Several comments on the draft EIS suggest that the aesthetic impact of placing or expanding education programs, buildings, and parking areas, adding signage at new or refurbished exhibits, or removing vegetation would be significantly adverse. Generally comments focus on changes proposed in areas that currently are primarily dominated by plantings or natural vegetation, where new facilities would be visible from particular areas or viewpoints within the park, where clearing would open views outside the park, or when impacts like these are viewed cumulatively (as opposed to individually) within and outside the park. The final EIS has



additional analysis, and the lead agency’s conclusions have been changed to describe the significance of these impacts. See revisions in the Aesthetics, Recreation, and Public Services and Utilities sections of the final EIS.

**1.4**—The proposal no longer includes an education and visitor service center at Madrona Terrace. The parking lot there would accommodate 30 cars, and there would be a small outdoor shelter. See the proposed master plan in Appendix A. Your comments are similar to several comments received regarding the likelihood that structures would be designed sensitively as intended in the plan. The master plan is programmatic, and designs have not yet been developed for individual projects. Most of the buildings proposed would have further environmental review, and under current city rules of operation, any changes to the park design would be subject to review by the Board of Park Commissioners and the Seattle Design Commission, which would provide opportunity for public comment on specific design issues. Regarding signage, see the discussion of this subject in the Aesthetics section of the final EIS.

**1.5**—Gradual change mitigates short-term impacts associated with construction, by limiting the degree of disruption to the landscape at any one time. Long-term and cumulative impacts may also be mitigated to a degree by development over a long period of time because, as has been the case with other structures and plantings in the park, the process of aging and maturing of vegetation has improved the appearance of the overall landscape in some ways. This statement was not intended to imply that all adverse aesthetic impacts of the proposal would be eliminated by gradual implementation. See revisions in the Aesthetics section of the final EIS.



**1.6**—Additional discussion of aesthetic preferences and the significance of aesthetic impacts is provided in the final EIS.

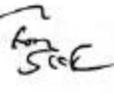
**1.7**—Several comment letters addressed the statement referred to in the DEIS. The text has been substantially modified to more clearly characterize the nature of the issues raised by this proposal, and the perspectives of park users regarding the impacts. See revised text in the Major Conclusions, Areas of Controversy, and Issues to Be Resolved section of the final EIS.

(Letter 1)

1.7 and so on, support the proposed plan and only those few folks who live nearby have objections.  
conti. That is completely false. People come from all over, including outside the city, to be in that beautiful, natural, unbuilt, park space. Though it is natural that the most prominent opponents of the unbalancing of the dual functions of Washington Park come from nearby, there is no evidence that the people of the rest of the city desire the subordination of the park qualities to the goals of a grander arboretum. The widely adopted resolution of the first paragraph above, the initiative of 1974, even Initiative 41 testify to the value of general park space in Washington Park and elsewhere to residents from all over the city.

Yours truly

  
Stephen Lindgren  
Co-Chair

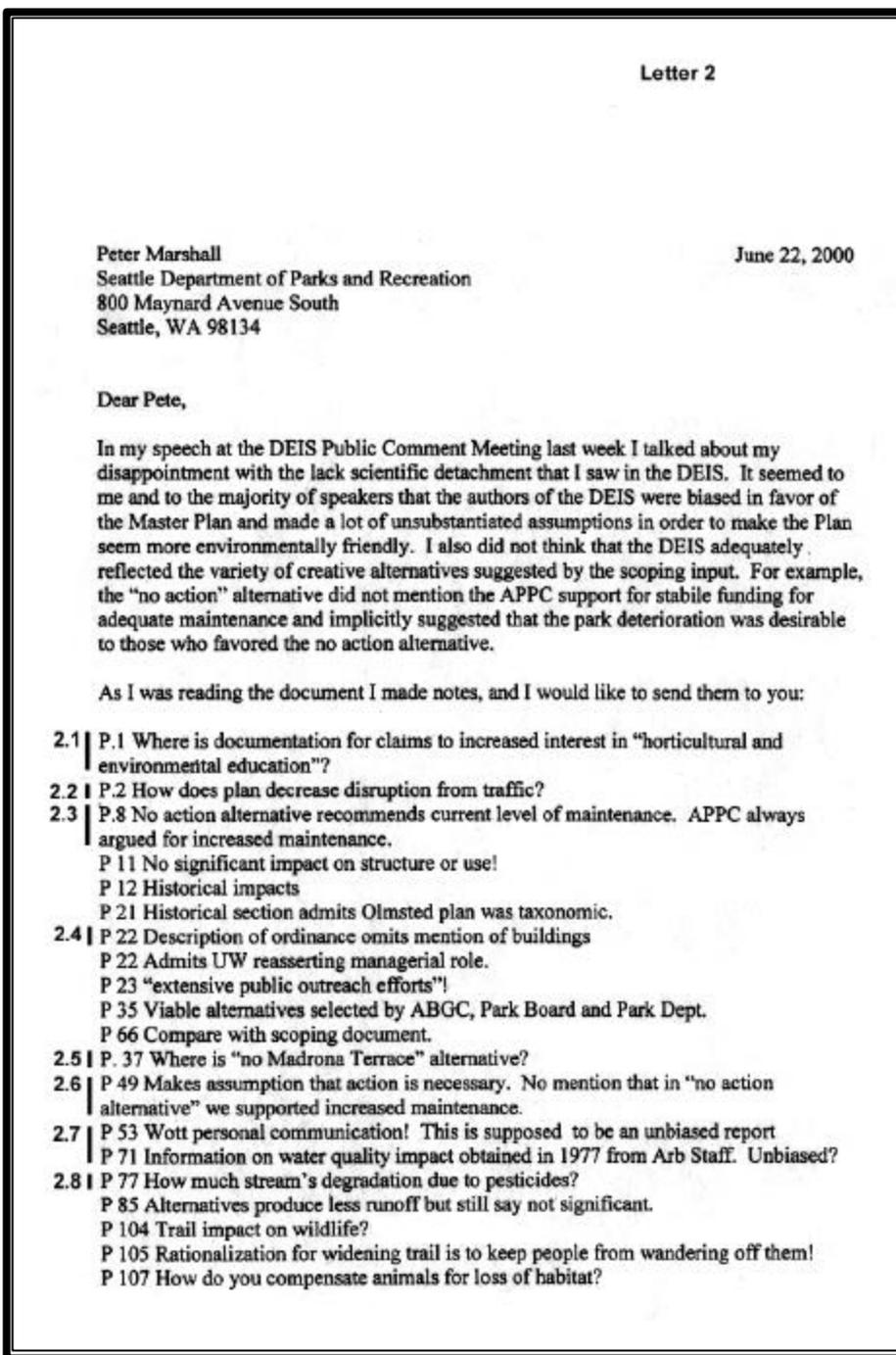
  
Rick Barrett  
Co-Chair

**2. Nancy Knapp**

Note: Some of the notes in this letter were too vague to require response.

**2.1**—The proponent (ABGC) indicates that several factors led to the student visit estimates. See Appendix D. The number refers to individual visits, not total number of individuals served. It takes into account the level of use that similar botanical gardens in similar-sized metropolitan regions attract, the types of programs that schools need and that the arboretum has a unique ability to support, current levels of use by both public and private schools, recent success of and public support for the programs currently provided, and general population trends. The ABGC indicates that the figure is a goal, acknowledging that the arboretum may not attain this level. If, by using the proponent’s projected demand for new services, the EIS overestimates the projected use, some actual impacts from such activities are likely to be less than described.

**2.2**—The proposed master plan would reconfigure two roadways and would provide a pedestrian overpass and crosswalk improvements. See Appendix A. Arboretum Drive would be moved closer to the eastern perimeter of the property with the intent of reducing vehicular noise and pedestrian circulation conflicts within Washington Park Arboretum. The pedestrian overpasses and pedestrian-activated signals are intended to reduce conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians trying to cross to other parts of the park.



**2.3**—The no action alternative contemplates operating under the existing master plan, which was updated in 1978. Increased maintenance, which was contemplated under the 1978 master plan update, would be limited to activities that could be accomplished with existing facilities.

**2.4**—The text of the final EIS has been changed to reflect all of the requirements of the ordinances that govern the park. The Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) considers all of the structures in the proposed master plan to be park-related structures and uses in compliance with the spirit and intent of those ordinances. In addition, as part of the master plan adoption package, DPR would propose an ordinance that defines the relationship between the master plan and previous governing ordinances and resolutions, including Ordinances 5740, 65310, 103667, 110135, 110911, and 116337, and Resolutions 24646 and 26153.

**2.5**— The proposal no longer includes an education and visitor service center at Madrona Terrace. The parking lot there would contain 30 cars, and there would be a small outdoor shelter. See the proposed master plan in Appendix A. In addition, both the no-building-expansion alternative and the no-action alternative consider the possibility of meeting the educational needs at a level similar to that currently provided without building the Madrona Terrace facility. The EIS also looks at offsite alternatives for meeting some of the anticipated growth in demand for educational services.

**2.6**—The EIS analyzes a range of actions that may be combined in any manner in the final decision on the plan. Increased maintenance is analyzed among the alternatives and thus can be considered in any final decision. See response to comment 2.3 above.

**2.7**—The anecdotal information provided by arboretum staff, while not scientific, provides an adequate level of detail for this discussion. In addition to anecdotal information, historical documentation provided by arboretum staff helps to assess what changes may have occurred in the past, in the absence of scientific studies conducted at the time.

**2.8**—The water quality data available from past studies do not provide sufficient information to determine how much of the degradation of the stream is specifically due to pesticide use.

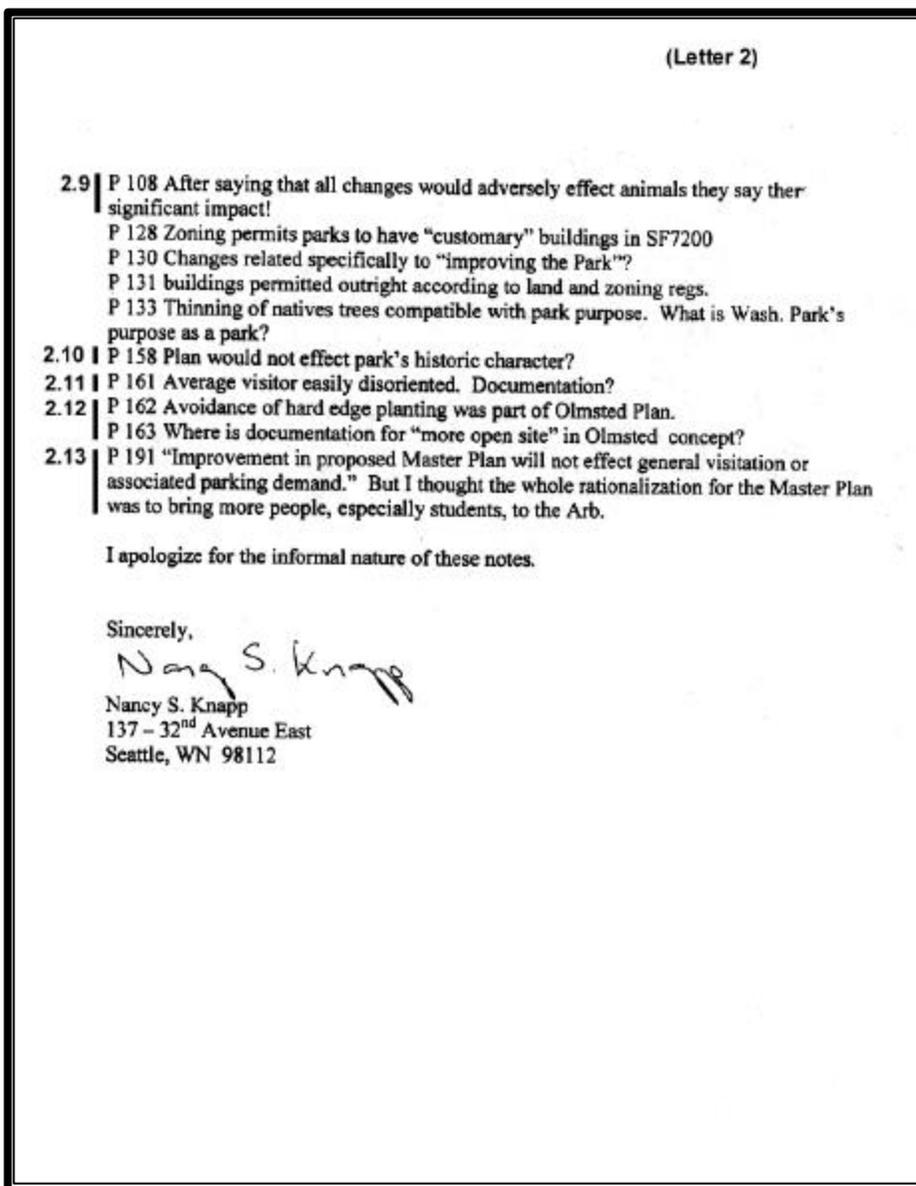
**2.9**—Impacts of the proposed master plan to plants and animals are not considered significant because they would be minimized by design, and can be mitigated adequately where they are unavoidable.

**2.10**—See the revised discussion of impacts on historic resources in the final EIS. Also see response to comment letters A1 and A2.

**2.11**—The statement is based on park staff observations that visitors frequently find it difficult to locate specific parts of the collection, and few are familiar with the method of organization either proposed by the Olmsted Brothers firm or the one actually developed as the arboretum was planted. The EIS text has been changed to reflect the limitations of these observations, which did not involve formal surveys.

**2.12**—Some of the sources for the analysis of the Olmsted Brothers and other historic contributions to the park are listed in the References and Information Sources Section of the final EIS. For example, the 1936 general plan developed by the Olmsted Brothers firm shows a less continuous tree canopy than exists in the park today. See the revised discussion of impacts on historic resources in the final EIS.

**2.13**—General visitation, in this context, is distinguished from visitation for programmed educational activities. Educational visitation is expected to remain a fraction of total visitation in the park. General visitation is expected to increase under either the no-action alternative or the proposed master plan. The master plan is not expected to add significantly to the number of recreational visitors not attending programmed activities, although some growth in general use of the park is expected, with or without adoption of the proposed master plan. The master plan includes estimated sizes of structures and intensity of use, and these have been evaluated in the



EIS on a conceptual level. The EIS does not attempt to determine whether additional parking would be justified, but rather to assess the impacts if the plan is implemented as proposed. Parking demand from the expanded programs would increase parking demand primarily during off-peak times, such as weekdays, when existing parking is not completely utilized. In addition, the vast majority of new users that the proposed master plan is expected to attract are anticipated to be school children who would arrive by bus. The addition of 8 spaces to accommodate buses would be adequate to meet this increased demand. The proposed parking revisions would also require project specific environmental review to determine the impacts at each phase of development under the plan.

3. Carol Weibel

3.1—The city appeal procedure with regard to the EIS is found in Seattle Municipal Code section 25.05.680.B. Both procedural and substantive issues relating to the adequacy of the EIS may be appealed to the Seattle hearing examiner (an administrative appeal) under those rules. The city council would not take action until an appeal, if one is filed, has been heard and a decision is made by the hearing examiner. There is no administrative appeal of the city council action. The University of Washington Board of Regents, which may also make a decision using the EIS, does not have an administrative appeal process.

3.2—The role of the lead agency during SEPA review is to evaluate the proponent's proposal. Note that the EIS text includes a summary of the ABGC proposal, titled *Renewing The Washington Park Arboretum*, which forms the basis for the proposed master plan reviewed in the EIS. That document, now included as Appendix A to the final EIS, provides a more complete statement of the purpose and need for the proposal. Your comments on the relative importance of the stated needs are acknowledged.

The objectives of the master plan were developed by the ABGC and were approved by the Seattle City Council at an early stage in the planning process.

Letter 3

1629 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98122

Peter Marshall, Park Planner  
Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation  
800 Maynard Avenue South  
Seattle, WA 98134

June 23, 2000

Re: Comments on Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Financial Report, Washington Park Arboretum Master Plan dated May 2000

Please address the following comments in a revised or final EIS:

3.1 | 1. **Pages i-iv: Date of Implementation and Final Action:** indicates that the governmental action for which the DEIS has been prepared is Seattle City Council action to approve an Arboretum master plan this summer or fall.

a. **What appeal will be available of that action and of the Final EIS?**

b. **Will an administrative appeal be available?**

c. **If so will it be procedural, substantive or both?**

3.2 | 2. **Page 1. Project Purpose and Need.** The DEIS incorrectly identifies the purpose and need for a new master plan. It states that the primary need is:

- **limitations in staffing and funding** ....resulting in ...
- **inadequate care and maintenance** . . . threatening continued survival of the collections.
- **"Also the existing taxonomic arrangement** of the plant collections is obscure to most visitors."
- **In addition . . . increased visitation . . . and significant interest in horticulture and environmental education .**

There appears to be significant agreement as to the first two identified needs, that is, that present limitations in staffing and funding have resulted in inadequate care and maintenance within the arboretum. However there is considerable disagreement about the third and fourth identified needs, that is for taxonomic arrangement of the arboretum collections and an increased roll the arboretum should play in providing horticultural and environmental education. The perceived "purpose and need" influence the stated "objective." The "objective" determines the proposal and alternatives. WAC 197-11-060(3)(a). The DEIS should be rewritten to define the objective of the new master plan in terms of the agreed need for adequate staffing and funding to provided adequate care and maintenance for the Washington Park Arboretum.

The mistake of including the taxonomic arrangement and grandiose educational mission in the objective is illustrated by the absurdity of a "preferred alternative" proposal that requires an **operating budget 3 times greater than the**

3.3—Several comments express perceptions of bias on the part of the project proponent or the consultants involved with preparing the proposed master plan and the EIS. See the Historical Background section in Part 2 of the final EIS for a synopsis of the roles of each of the parties involved in preparation of this document.

3.4—Your comments on how you value each of the goals are acknowledged. It is not the purpose or intent of the EIS to evaluate the ABGC's reasons for proposing the master plan. However, the ABGC has provided background information on the educational programs, which is now included in the EIS as Appendix D. The scoping document for the master plan was adopted by the city council by resolution, and the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has determined that all the elements proposed in the plan are park functions allowed in the park. The functions that would be managed by the university fall under the agreements, resolutions and ordinances regarding governance and management adopted by the city council. *Seattle's Parks & Recreation Plan 2000 Update* has only one policy that specifically mentions the arboretum master plan, and that simply calls for completion of this EIS, adoption of a plan, and implementation of priority projects. It also includes policies regarding both environmental education and the use of park property for operations that support or enhance public park or recreational services. These policies provide the framework for DPR's role in management of the arboretum.

(Letter 3)

existing budget and "could result in a difference of \$1.8 million/year between expenses and presently established sources of revenue." Seattle Parks and Recreation, Financial Aspects of the Proposed Arboretum Master Plan, May 2000 (hereafter "Financial Report"), page 12-13.

3.2 |           The "Proponent's Objective" leads to a "preferred alternative" that  
conti. | exacerbates rather than relieves the stated purpose and need that supposedly  
          | justifies the proposed action: i.e. the need for adequate care and maintenance of  
          | the arboretum! This section of the DEIS should be rewritten. **The Lead Agency  
          | should not blindly adopt the Proponent's Objective.**

3.3 |           3. Pages 1-3, and 17-19. The Arboretum Foundation's Goals. Conflict of Interest?

          |           "The EIS [sic] puts forth the plans and goals of the Arboretum Foundation."  
          | Member of the Arboretum Foundation at the public hearing on June 15, 2000.

          |           This is the main flaw of the DEIS. It accepts without debate the goals of the  
          | Foundation. The Foundation donated "approximately \$600,000 for developing the  
          | master plan now being considered." Financial Report, p. 1. While the DEIS was  
          | financed jointly by the Foundation, the U.W. and the Parks Department, it was written  
          | by Consultants who had all worked on the Master Plan, i.e. the October 1997 plan submitted  
          | by The Portico Group. Compare page v of Master Plan with page iii of DEIS. It appears  
          | that the authors of the DEIS had a conflict of interest.

          |           The contents of the DEIS also give the appearance of a conflict of interest in the un-  
          | balanced emphasis upon the "preferred alternative", i.e. the Master Plan, and the  
          | inadequately described alternatives.

3.4 |           The "Proponent's Objectives" define a "preferred alternative" that serves the  
          | specialized and often misguided goals of the Foundation:

          |           • The "educational goals" are overemphasized. All City Parks "have the potential"  
          | to be turned into classrooms, but education is primarily the responsibility of the  
          | public schools and the university.

          |           • The "conservation goals" call for a rearrangement of the collections that is  
          | unnecessary and destructive of a more enlightened and respectful recognition of  
          | the fundamentals and value of biodiversity.

          |           • The "goals for visitor services and recreation" (a) put the "mission of education"  
          | above recreation, (b) place an unsupported emphasis upon increased safety  
          | provisions, (see page 202: total damage to arboretum property including theft in  
          | 1998 is \$3,700; only one instance of reported assaults), (c) require "amenities . .  
          | .befitting a large public garden" that trample the public's desire for open green  
          | space and ignore the Park Department's fiduciary duty to preserve the park for  
          | future generations.

          |           • The "general goals" put an inordinate emphasis on fund-raising, creating a  
          | "flagship" public garden, and unnecessary capital improvements.

**3.5**—The scale and nature of the education functions described in the proposed master plan are considered by the city to be appropriate arboretum functions for location in the park. Under the proposed master plan, fundraising would be located offsite.

**3.6**—The EIS discusses offsite alternatives for some of the educational functions, and the environmental impacts are analyzed. A financial comparison of the cost of acquiring these or other sites is outside the scope of this EIS.

**3.7**—See the response to comment 2.4.

**3.8**—The city and the university have maintained the park and collections pursuant to the agreement as budgets have allowed.

**3.9**—The Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee (ABGC) was established in 1934 as a committee of university and city appointees, with one appointed by the governor. It was expanded through resolution of the city council to include two representatives from the Arboretum Foundation. The City of Seattle currently has one member of the Board of Park Commissioners and one neighborhood member filling two of its three positions on the committee.

**3.10**—The financial report information is outside the scope of the EIS. See the response to comment 5.2.

**3.11**—The cost for parking in the newspaper article you cite refers to development of parking spaces in buildings, which are often underground. This proposal and alternatives include only surface parking. Also see the response to comment 2.13.

**3.12**—Comment acknowledged.

(Letter 3)

**3.4** | *Look at these carefully. Why the emphasis on education and fund raising? Are*  
**3.5** | *these really park functions. University functions? Is this really consistent with Seattle*  
**3.6** | *Parks and Recreation Comp Plan? What would the University have to pay for other sites*  
**3.6** | *to build educational facilities?*

**4.** Page 21-23, Historical Background.

**3.7** | • The DEIS incorrectly and incompletely describes Ordinance 103667 which stated that there should not be any new construction of university classrooms or offices in Washington Park.

**3.8** | • If the “city is responsible for routine maintenance” why has it not fulfilled that responsibility?  
 • If the University of Washington “is responsible for developing and displaying the collections and running educational programs . . . and provid[ing] maintenance of the collections . . .” why has it not fulfilled that responsibility?

**3.9** | • What authority does the ABGC have to be the “primary forum for . . . resolution of issues related to the Washington Park Arboretum.”? By what right does the Arboretum Foundation sit as an equal partner with the UW and Parks Department on that Committee? Why are not other public entities represented on that committee? How can other public entities become members of the committee?

**3.10** | **5.** Page 25-35. Preferred Alternative. The mistaken statement of purpose and need (item 2 above) not only leads to a “preferred alternative” that fails to meet the existing need for adequate care and maintenance, it also leads to the outrageous estimated Capital Cost of the “preferred alternative” of \$44 million where \$39.7 million is expected to come from “other” sources. Financial Report, P. 7. This estimate needs to be revised to take into account the dollar value of the open space land which will be lost to these capital improvements.

**3.11** | **6.** Page 30. The preferred alternative would add 82 parking spaces for cars and 8 spaces for buses. Neither the environmental nor financial implications of this addition are adequately analyzed.  
  
*“Developers say it costs \$25,000 per stall to include parking slots at new apartment complexes.” Quoted from Seattle Post-Intelligencer, June 15, 2000, page B-1: “City Looking into Parking Cuts for Rent Relief” by Kery Murakami.  
 82 parking spaces at a cost of \$25,000 = close to \$2.1 million. The 8 bus parking spaces are equivalent to 32 car spaces and therefore would come at a cost of an additional \$1 million. All proposed added parking spaces would cost over \$3 million. Not to mention the visual and aesthetic impact and destruction of open space for people, animals, plants and wetlands.*

**3.12** | **7.** Please consider the following advice from the **SEPA Handbook**:  
  
**Describing the proposal (page 44): “Agencies are encouraged to describe a proposal as an objective particularly for agency actions. For example, a city**

**3.13**—The EIS includes consideration of offsite alternatives for several elements of the proposed master plan, including the education, community meeting, and administrative functions. Some features, such as changes to trails or the Japanese garden, are unique to the arboretum site and do not lend themselves to offsite options.

**3.14**—See the response to comment 2.3

**3.15**—The buildings in the proposed master plan would convert open space to buildings. Paving for parking and road realignment likewise would alter some areas that are currently vegetated, while some areas that are currently paved would be planted. The site would remain a public park, in any case, and could be returned to open space if that is the public's wish. The final EIS includes additional text in the Aesthetics section addressing the issue of cumulative loss of tranquil and naturalistic open space.

(Letter 3)

3.12 | could propose the construction of a series of settling ponds and chlorination system at  
conti, | the wastewater treatment facility. **Instead, the proposal could be described as**  
meeting the wastewater treatment needs of future development for next 15 years.  
This encourages the consideration of a wider range of alternatives, where different  
treatment processes, and even water reuse options are contemplated **rather than**  
**limiting the consideration to size and location options.** (Emphasis added.)

Identifying Alternatives (page 44-45): . . . "Alternatives are one of the basic building  
blocks of an EIS. They present options in a meaningful way for decision-makers."

3.13 | 8. Page 35-40. Alternatives to Proposed Plan.  
"For public projects, alternative project sites must also be evaluated." (Sepa  
Handbook page 45.)  
The DEIS does not adequately describe the alternative of no additional capital  
facilities being built within Washington Park. It does not adequately describe  
the alternative that the University of Washington fulfill its perceived K-12  
educational functions at other locations (e.g. in existing public schools or  
existing University buildings such as the soon to be replaced off campus law  
school building.) It does not adequately describe the alternative that the  
University provide part of its arboretum program at other sites.

3.14 | 9. Page 40-43. No Action Alternative.  
At the June 15, 2000 public hearing it was clear that many speakers thought that the  
"no action alternative" meant that nothing would be done to meet the needs of  
increased maintenance at the arboretum, and did not understand that there remained  
portions of the existing master plan to be implemented. The DEIS does not  
adequately describe the identified "No action alternative."

3.15 | 9. Page 51-211. Impacts.  
"The foreclosure of other options should also be considered (i.e. conversion of  
timberland to residential development eliminates the possible use of the site for future  
timber production, conversion to farmland, etc.)." Sepa Handbook, page 46.

The analysis of impacts ignores the fact that the approval of a new master plan for  
the Washington Park Arboretum which includes the construction of new capital  
facilities would effectively forever foreclose the preservation of portions of the  
treasured green open space which the Park Department holds in trust for future  
generations.

The DEIS attempts to minimize this impact by saying that it will occur over 20 or  
30 years and therefore be imperceptible. But the effect of new buildings and new  
pavement and impervious surfaces is a foregone conclusion if the "preferred  
alternative" is adopted. And that effect is, by definition, the destruction of open  
space.

**3.16**—The master plan holds out the possibility that salmon or other fish could begin to use the creek. However, it is not known at this time if that is feasible, and the plan proposes daylighting the creek whether or not it is possible to attract salmon to spawn there. Because this would be a possible benefit and not an adverse impact of the plan, it is not necessary in the EIS to detail the feasibility of establishing a salmon run.

**3.17**—The designation is ceremonial, recognizing the value that the Washington Park Arboretum has to the people of the state, and the investment made by the people of the state over the years in its development and maintenance.

**3.18**—Ordinance 103667 was not adopted as part of Seattle's Land Use Code. It is therefore discussed separately in the final EIS. See the revised text of the final EIS and the response to comment 2.4.

**3.19**—Comments acknowledged. Some additional information may be found in the final EIS regarding these subject areas.

**3.20**—The EIS fully addresses the legal rights of tribes in the Plants and Animals section under the heading Usual and Accustomed Fishing Areas, and in the Historic and Cultural Resources section under the discussion of archeological resources.

**3.21**— At this stage, it is difficult to assess the effect that these other institutions would have on the proposal, either as a competitor for funds or for visitors and students. The Preston garden does not yet have a master plan. The Bellevue garden is much smaller than Washington Park Arboretum and focuses on smaller-scale plantings, including, for example, herbaceous perennials. By contrast the

(Letter 3)

The "preferred alternative" is the Portico Master Plan which was financed by the Arboretum Foundation. It is a Trojan Horse. If it is adopted, the Foundation's dream of a benefactor who will build at its own expense something like the grandiose Madronna Terrace facility could happen tomorrow, and there will be no turning back. The environmental impacts of such a monstrosity must be analyzed now.

**3.16** | 10. The DEIS incorrectly and inadequately describes "Arboretum Creek" and its history and potential as spawning habitat for fish now protected under the ESA. Pages 72-74, 102-103.

**3.17** | 11. What is the significance of the 1995 Legislative designation of the Washington Park Arboretum as "an official state arboretum?" Did the Legislature dedicate any funds to this arboretum? Did it say that it is the only "official state arboretum?"

**3.18** | 12. Why is there no mention of Seattle Ordinance 103667 when discussing Seattle Land Use Code on page 128 and why is the ordinance incorrectly described on page 22?

**3.19** | 13. The DEIS inadequately describes the Public Trust responsibility of the Parks Department on page 128.

14. The DEIS inadequately describes the relevant "open space policies" on page 128.

15. The DEIS inadequately describes the Shoreline Management Act and critical areas ordinance requirements in relation to the proposed alternatives. Page 129-142.

16. The DEIS inadequately describes at page 183 the Trans-lake Washington Study and its relationship to the proposals.

17. The DEIS inadequately describes the implications of the data presented on page 202 regarding police calls and therefore inadequately describes the impacts of "safety" features of the alternatives and their impacts.

**3.20** | 18. The DEIS fails to adequately consider the legal rights of affected Indian Tribes.

**3.21** | 19. The financial analysis is helpful. However it fails to consider other competitors for the identified possible sources of funds.

Very truly yours,  
  
 Carol J. Welbel  
 1624-36th Ave  
 Seattle, WA  
 98122

Washington Park Arboretum has primarily focused its collections on woody plants and has taken advantage of its large site to grow many large specimen trees. Facilities in other Seattle parks are well suited to teaching about local natural history, but do not offer the opportunity to compare and contrast with plants from the rest of the world. Conversely, each of these other facilities may have some special attribute not present at the arboretum, and thus the arboretum is not expected to be the exclusive location for environmental education.

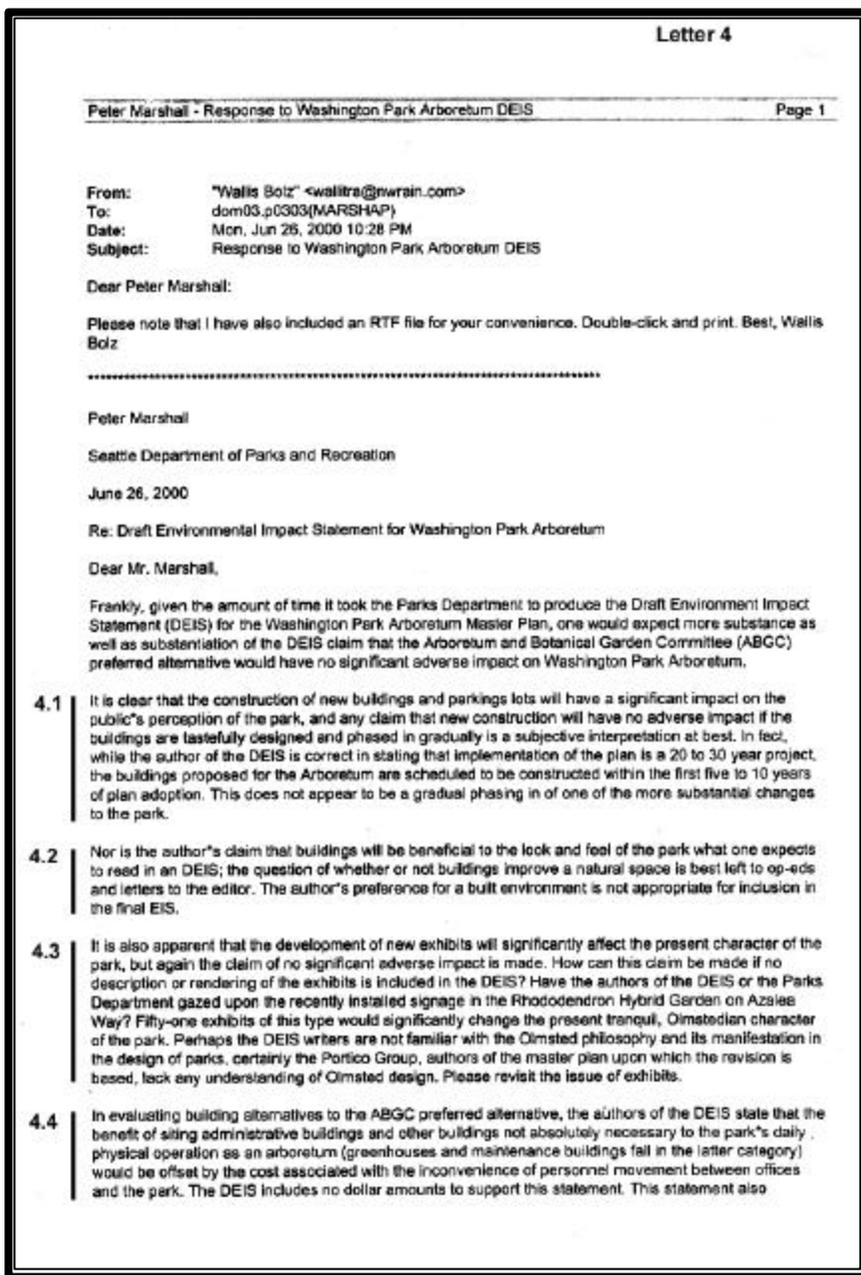
**4. Wallis Bolz**

**4.1**—Precise timing for the projects in the proposed master plan has not been established and is dependent in part on funding that has not yet been secured. The proponent (ABGC) has indicated that its general priorities are, in order: 1) plant collection maintenance and renovation; 2) infrastructure repair and improvement for maintenance of the collection; and 3) improved visitor amenities, including parking, structures, and educational programs. Some sequencing priorities have also been identified, such as replacing parking before removing any existing parking. See the full text of the proposed master plan, Appendix A. Priority projects or guidelines could be identified in the adoption process, and priorities are expected to be revisited from time to time during implementation.

**4.2**—The comment appears to refer to a statement on p. 163 of the draft EIS. That statement has been modified in the final EIS to say that the structures may be perceived as beneficial by some, to be consistent with other statements in the EIS noting that the changes proposed would also likely be perceived by some as significant adverse impacts.

**4.3**—Signs for proposed plan elements have not yet been designed. While it is true that the design and placement of signs could have significant impacts on the aesthetic quality of the park under all alternatives, signs would be guided by city policies found in *Seattle's Parks & Recreation Plan 2000 Update*. Two policies in that plan address signs directly: *Sufficient, easily understood signage will be maintained to permit enforcement of the law within parks, while recognizing that signs are generally considered a visual intrusion within the desirable park environs.... The use of signs and displays for environmental education will be limited primarily to securable or highly visible locations, with brochures and self*

*guided tours promoted in lieu of signs. Signage design could also be guided by additional policies that could be adopted as part of the master plan.*



**4.4**—A cost-benefit analysis is not required by SEPA, and this EIS is not intended to include a full review of costs. Overall operating costs are expected to be substantially the same whether located in the arboretum or not. The proposed master plan advocates location of many administrative activities and personnel in the Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI) building on the premise that their day-to-day activities do not require being directly onsite. Certain curatorial and educational activities, however, can be carried out only by personnel in direct contact with visitors and resources within the arboretum. The new structures in the proposed plan, which are reduced in size from earlier versions of the plan, are intended to accommodate only these park-related activities. In general, capital costs for developing park supporting structures do not include site acquisition. Restrooms, visitor centers, and similar structures are provided in other Seattle parks because they enhance park functions for the public. The specific increased costs for offsite facilities are personnel and travel costs, and could include the cost of using other offsite property.

4.5—See the response to comment 3.21.

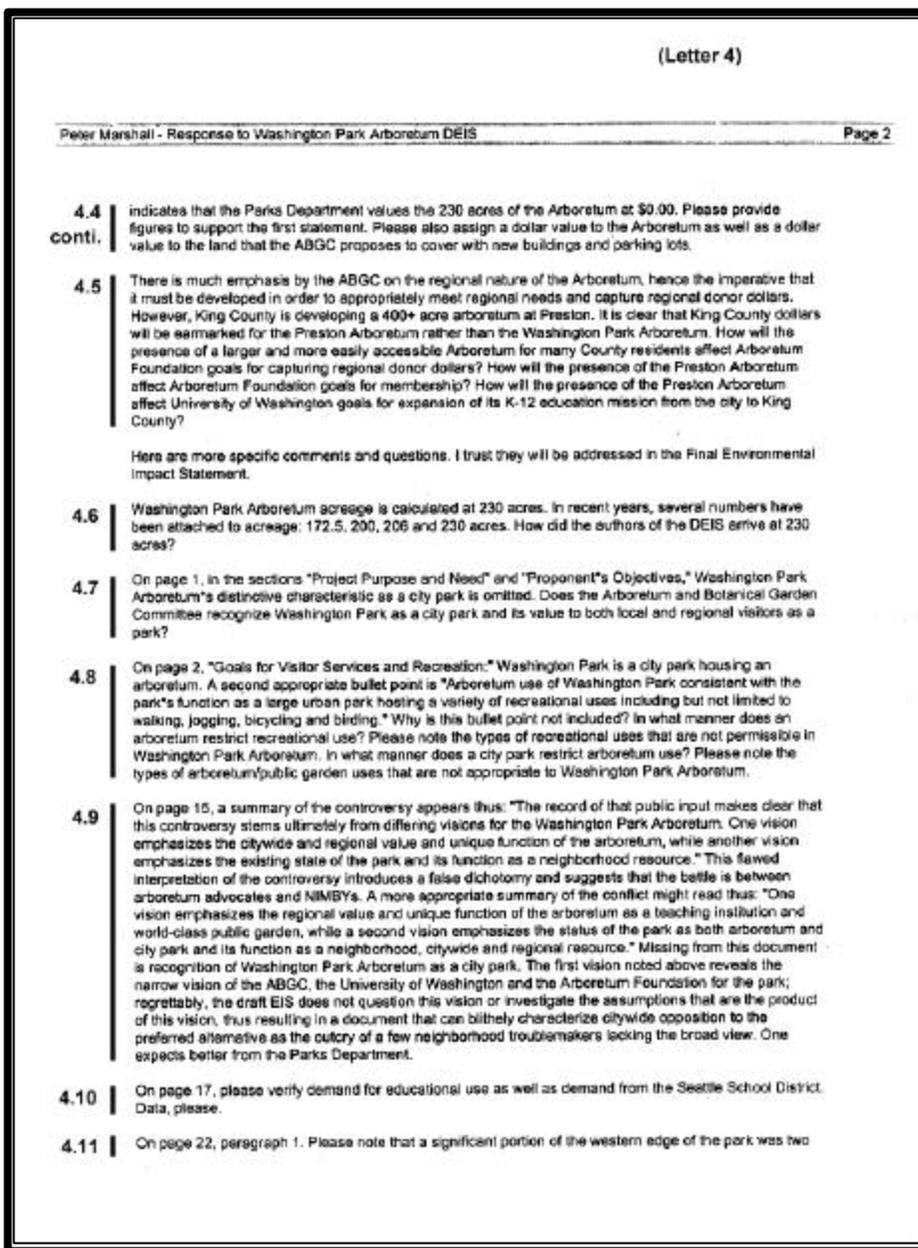
4.6—The acreage figure used in the EIS is approximate. The figure includes all of the Washington Park property beginning at Madison Avenue on the south and extending to and including the Foster Island property belonging to the university on the north, and property under and around SR 520 belonging to the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), but it does include some of the submerged land of Duck Bay and Marsh Bay.

4.7—The master plan goals include a number of goals that pertain to general visitation and use of the park aside from its use as an arboretum. Also see the response to comment 4.8 below.

4.8—The ABGC has added a goal that reads: “Educational, conservation, and visitor facilities that are consistent with growing recreational enjoyment of Washington Park Arboretum by citizens of the city, region, and beyond.” See Appendix A of the final EIS. The proposed master plan does not include any new rules limiting recreational use. The plan assumes that the park’s management would limit bicycling to paved surfaces, restrict launching of car-top boats to designated places where shoreline improvements can accommodate that activity, and implement other similar measures to limit impacts on the park resulting from recreational use.

4.9—See revised text in the Major Conclusion, Areas of Controversy, and Issues to be Resolved section of the final EIS and the response to comment 1.7.

4.10—See response to comment 2.1.



4.11—Thank you for the additional historical information.

**4.12**—The master plan does not propose to place any of the programs from the Center for Urban Horticulture at the Washington Park Arboretum. The Center for Urban Horticulture would continue to house the library, research, production, continuing adult education, and administrative headquarters for University of Washington academic programs. The university collections and outreach programs currently located at the arboretum, including K-12 educational programs, would be expanded under the master plan.

**4.13**—In *Seattle's Parks & Recreation Plan 2000 Update*, the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) lays out its system-wide objectives with regard to environmental education. DPR recognizes that there are other competing organizations in environmental education. DPR also recognizes that the demand for these services is not a fixed quantity; rather, the demand is influenced by the quality of programs that are convenient and available. Any decision to proceed with facilities for expanded services would come after careful assessment of the expected level of use. Cumulative effects are discussed in the Final EIS in several sections, including Plants and Animals and Aesthetics.

**4.14**—See the response to comment 1.1.

**4.15**—The expanded parking area is not expected to eliminate the flat area where the picnic tables are located. The proposed master plan does not include detailed designs. If and when a design is developed, impacts on the picnic area would be examined more closely. DPR expects that there would be enough space to keep picnic tables in this area after plan implementation.

**4.16**—The concept is to provide a room similar to the existing room at the Graham Visitors Center, which would be used for similar purposes. The capacity of the room would be about 100 people, and rental rates would be set in a similar manner to other facilities in the park.

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Peter Marshall - Response to Washington Park Arboretum DEIS Page 3

**4.11** | blocks or so of Montlake homes prior to the proposed construction of the R.H.Thomsen Expressway. These homes were acquired by the Washington State Department of Transportation and demolished. After the citizens defeated the Expressway, Washington Park Arboretum added these former home sites to its western edge including what is now the Pinetum and Conifer meadow.

**4.12** | If in 1979 the University of Washington built the Center for Urban Horticulture in order to provide "physical facilities, programs, and staff that could not be accommodated within the park grounds," how can these University of Washington entities now be accommodated within the park grounds? What has changed within the park that would now permit construction of several buildings in order to house programs and staff as well as tee houses and gift shops?

**4.13** | How does an expansion of University and Arboretum Foundation facilities within a large and important urban park reconcile with Seattle's growing demand for open space, preservation of wildlife habitat and parks? Can the Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation afford to look at parks programming in a vacuum, as this document does? Would a more appropriate approach address parks cumulatively? Given that each natural park within the system is proposing to add an environmental educational center, how does this citywide parks building program dissipate demand for a single facility? How does the development of the Brainerd Environmental Education Center on Vashon Island affect the demand for environmental education within Washington Park Arboretum and the Seattle park system, given that the Brainerd center will compete for the same student population? And what is the cumulative effect on wild and visitor experience of filling our parks with buildings?

**4.14** | Do the trails that appear in Figure 2 represent the proposed expansion of the trail system? If not, where a map of the proposed trail system? Where is a map of the existing trail system (Figure 1 is not a complete trail map.)?

**4.15** | Page 28: How will an expansion of the Japanese Garden parking lot affect the existing picnic area? This picnic area adjacent to the Madison Playfield is a popular feature of the park—will the parking lot expansion encroach upon these picnic area? If so, how does the Parks Department propose to replace the picnic area?

**4.16** | Page 30: What is a community meeting space? Please note the types of uses envisioned for this space. Will a fee be charged for use of the space?

**4.17** | Page 34: Please note the character of special events and community celebrations envisioned for the Woodland Meadow. Are you talking about concerts in the manner of Chateau Ste. Michelle and the Woodland Park Zoo? Will a fee be charged for these events and celebrations?

**4.18** | Page 35: Salmon run? Has Arboretum Creek historically hosted a salmon run?

**4.19** | Page 80: Can Arboretum Creek support both salmon and increased runoff from new parking lots and buildings?

**4.20** | Page 89: What special protections are afforded to the non-wetland portion of the Washington Park Arboretum per Seattle's Urban Wildlife and Habitat Management Plan and other ordinances, regulations and policies?

**4.21** | Page 95: How will runoff, including pollutants, from the proposed Madrona Terrace parking lot affect the water quality of the Broadmoor marsh, which drains into one of Arboretum Creek's tributaries?

**4.22** | Page 105: Will construction of the Madrona Terrace parking lot remove the Broadmoor Marsh wetland buffer?

**4.23** | Page 105: "Buildings and Outdoor Shelters." The authors state: "These include constructing the Japanese

**4.17**—Fees would be set in a manner similar to current fees for use of this area. The intent is to maintain this area so that it could accommodate outdoor gatherings of a scale appropriate to the size of the meadow, which is considerably smaller than the venues you mention and does not have the available parking capacity that those venues have. The frequency and intensity of use would be limited in order to keep the grass and plantings in good condition.

**4.18**— Little is known about the historical streamflow volumes. If flows were large enough, it is likely that salmon would have used the stream.

**4.19**—It is not certain that the creek would support salmon in a restored surface channel, but increased flows would likely be necessary for salmon to use the creek regularly. In the event that the creek is daylighted and begins to support salmon, impacts such as increased runoff rates from buildings and parking areas would need to be addressed. As described in the EIS, peak flow and water quality control measures could be designed and incorporated at the time each project in the master plan is developed.

**4.20**—Resolution 28946, among other actions, appended a wildlife and habitat plan to the Parks *COMPLAN* in 1994. While the plan adopted with that resolution does not contain specific recommendations or policies for the Washington Park Arboretum, some of the elements of the proposed master plan would support many of the policies of that plan, and some could conflict to a degree. Conflicts between plant and animal habitat preservation and intensified human use of the park under the master plan are described in the EIS, as are the efforts included in the plan to improve certain habitat areas.

**4.21**—Drainage for the 30-space Madrona Terrace parking area has not been designed. Runoff from the area would likely be discharged directly to the tributary of Arboretum Creek after treatment to reduce oil and sediment pollutants. Runoff from parking areas along Arboretum Drive would remain about the same as at present, if existing parking is eliminated after the new lot is constructed, as proposed.

**4.22**—The originally proposed location of the Madrona Terrace parking area extended into the western portion of the required buffer for the Broadmoor Marsh. However, Seattle's environmentally critical areas regulations would not permit development in the buffer. The smaller lot proposed for this location could be constructed outside the required buffer.

**4.23**—The text has been corrected to state: "These include expanding the entrance facility and constructing the Japanese garden pavilion on the hillside north of the pond...."

**4.24**—Gradual change mitigates temporary habitat loss due to construction activity, insofar as disruptions to habitat areas can be avoided by some species if the disruptions are small and similar habitat is available nearby. The statement on p.107 has been modified to make clear that gradual implementation would not mitigate all adverse impacts on habitat, and that some habitat areas would still be affected by the changes proposed in the master plan.

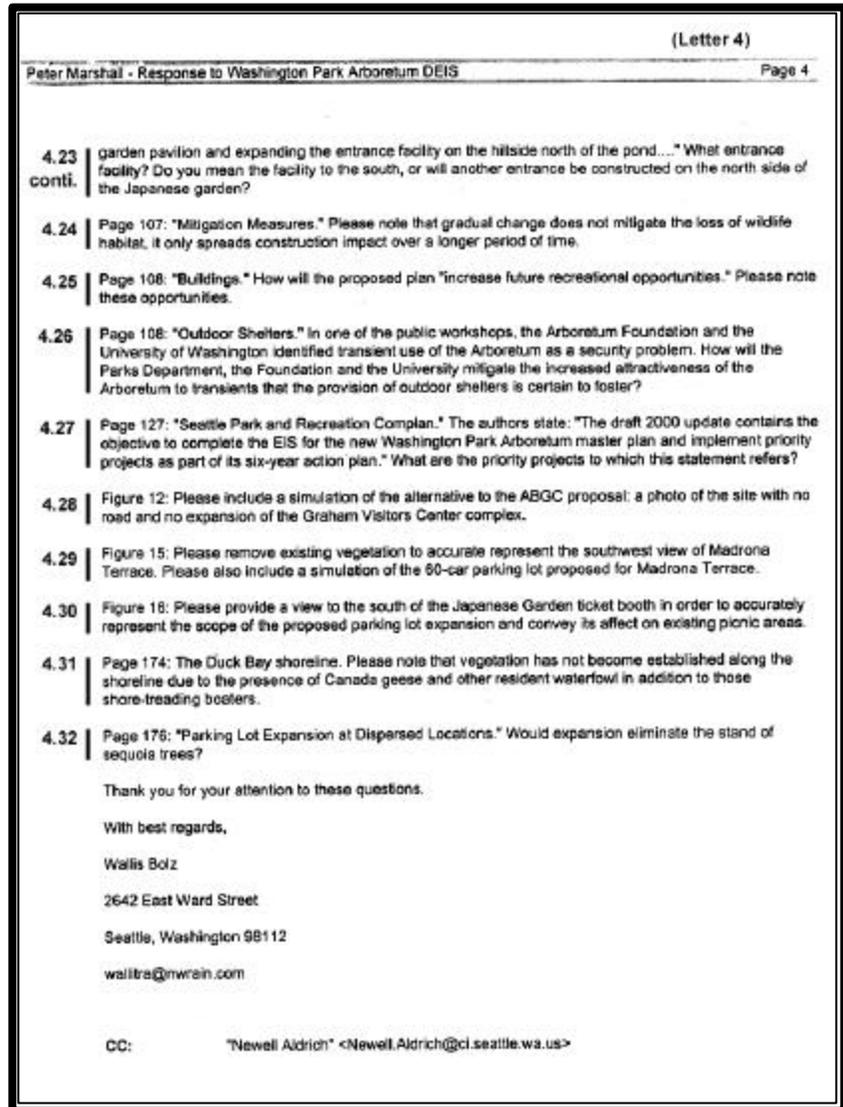
**4.25**—The reference was found on p.118 rather than on page 108. The statement was intended to convey that implementation of the plan would increase activity that would generate additional noise. For example, the addition of the Japanese garden pavilion would expand the range of recreational activities that could be provided there.

**4.26**—The proposed shelters could be used by transients. This issue has not been identified by DPR staff or Seattle police as a significant problem, although it is one that occurs from time to time in many city parks. New shelters that are located in areas obscured from easy surveillance may become problematic in the future. This could place additional burdens on park staff or Seattle police. This impact could be mitigated by additional surveillance devices or by locating the structures so that they can be readily seen from roads.

**4.27**—See the response to comment 4.1.

**4.28**—The purpose of the simulation is to show the impacts of the full proposal if implemented (worst-case scenario). It is hoped that readers can use the simulation to infer that the road could be removed and the buildings could remain the same as in the existing image.

**4.29**—Although the structures and lot have not been designed, designers have studied the site and determined that the proposed structures could feasibly be constructed while preserving the trees shown, particularly with the 30-space lot now proposed. Note that many trees in the existing view have been removed in the “proposed” view, and the replacement trees are shown relatively small because this would realistically be the condition for several years if the structure and parking lot were built.



**4.30**—Expansion of the lot could cut into the area currently used for picnic tables, but some new areas would be opened as well. Relocating the picnic tables to other locations that are equally convenient to parking could mitigate this impact. See response to comment 4.15.

**4.31**—It is acknowledged that several factors have contributed to the erosion at Duck Bay, which are discussed on p. 53 of the draft EIS. In this section of the EIS, the point being made is that the eroded bank would be revegetated under the master plan, and this would have aesthetic impacts that are generally viewed as positive.

**4.32**—The lot has not been designed. It is possible that the sequoia or other trees would need to be eliminated to accommodate additional parking. If the lot is expanded as proposed in this alternative, the design intent would be to minimize impacts on adjacent mature vegetation.

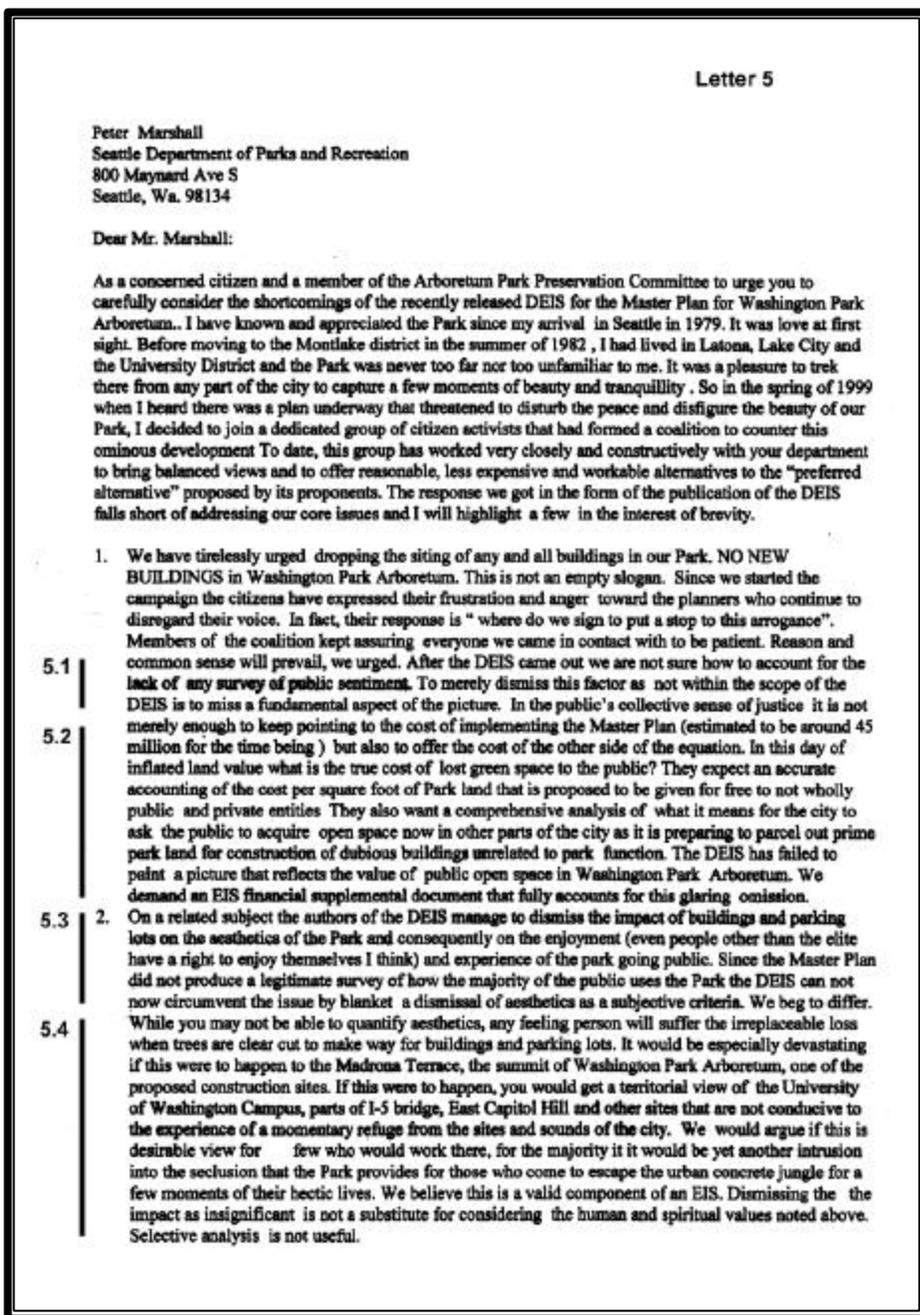
**5. Workinesh Tianen, APPC**

**5.1**—Under SEPA, the EIS is not intended to provide a poll regarding how many citizens favor or oppose the proposed master plan or particular elements of the plan. Regarding aesthetic considerations, the revised text of that section of the EIS may address your concerns.

**5.2**—Several comments were received regarding the cost of acquiring open space to offset "losses" to the park caused by implementing the proposed master plan. No park land is anticipated to be sold, transferred, or put to non-park uses, although the park would become more intensively used. The City of Seattle does not have a policy of acquiring park or open space land to offset construction of buildings, roads, or parking areas in parks for park purposes, so there would be no link between acquisitions and this master plan. Some comments asked for accounting of how much total land would be affected by the master plan. Because the master plan includes capital and maintenance programming for the entire park, almost the entire park is expected to be affected to some degree over the life of the plan. Also see response to comment 4.4.

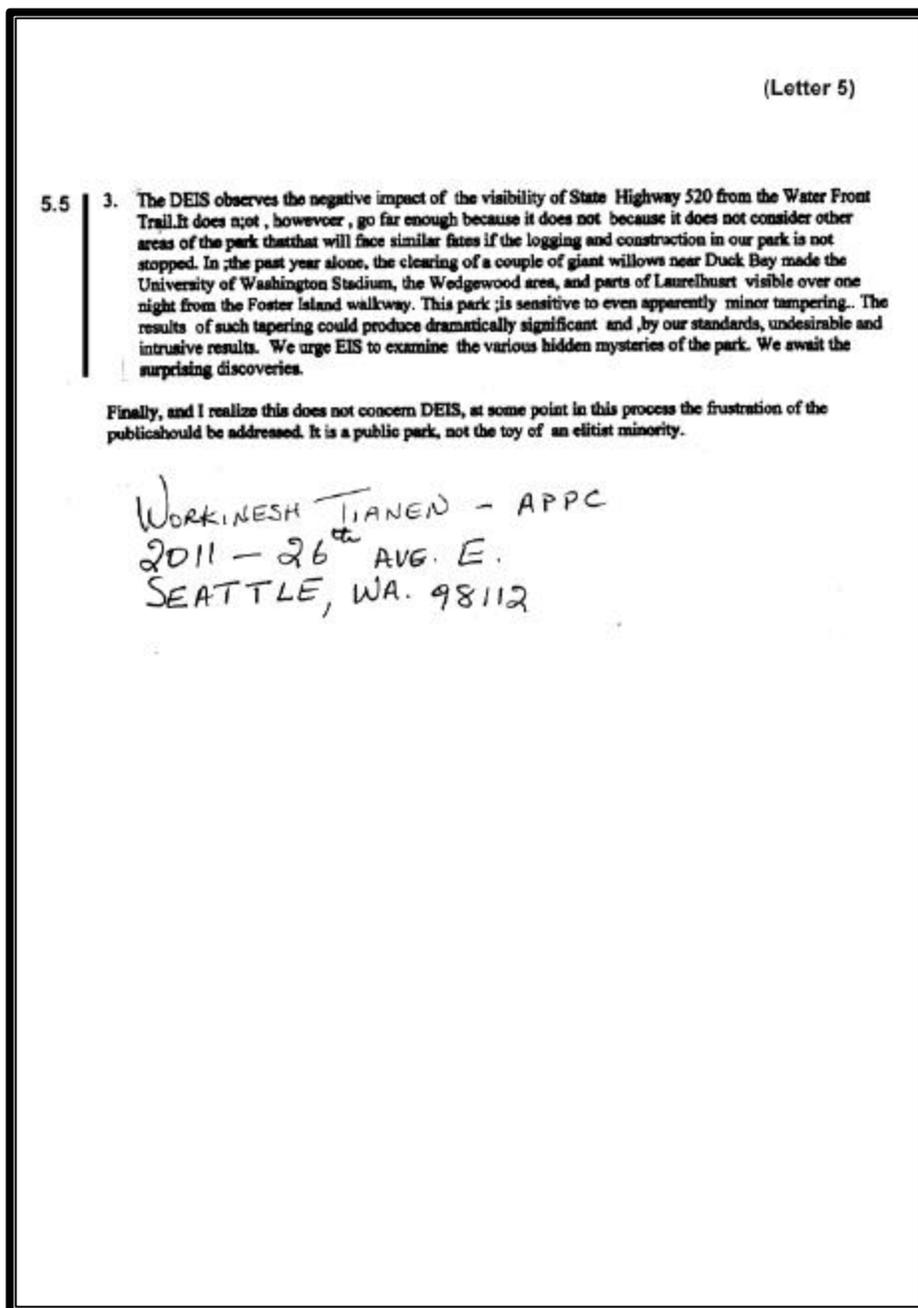
**5.3**—Additional discussion of aesthetic preferences and the significance of aesthetic impacts has been provided in the final EIS.

**5.4**—The description of the proposal in Part 2 of the final EIS describes revisions to the proposed plan that have been made since distribution of the draft EIS, including an alternative to the Madrona Terrace building previously proposed. The final EIS also



contains some additional analysis of the aesthetic impacts of the proposal, including an assessment of which areas would be affected by views of buildings.

5.5—The master plan does not identify specific trees or plantings for removal. As you noted, the impact of opening undesirable views as unwanted canopy trees are removed could be mitigated by careful planning as each clearing effort is undertaken, for example, through selective thinning or phased removal. Such measures have been added to the list of potential mitigation for aesthetic impacts.

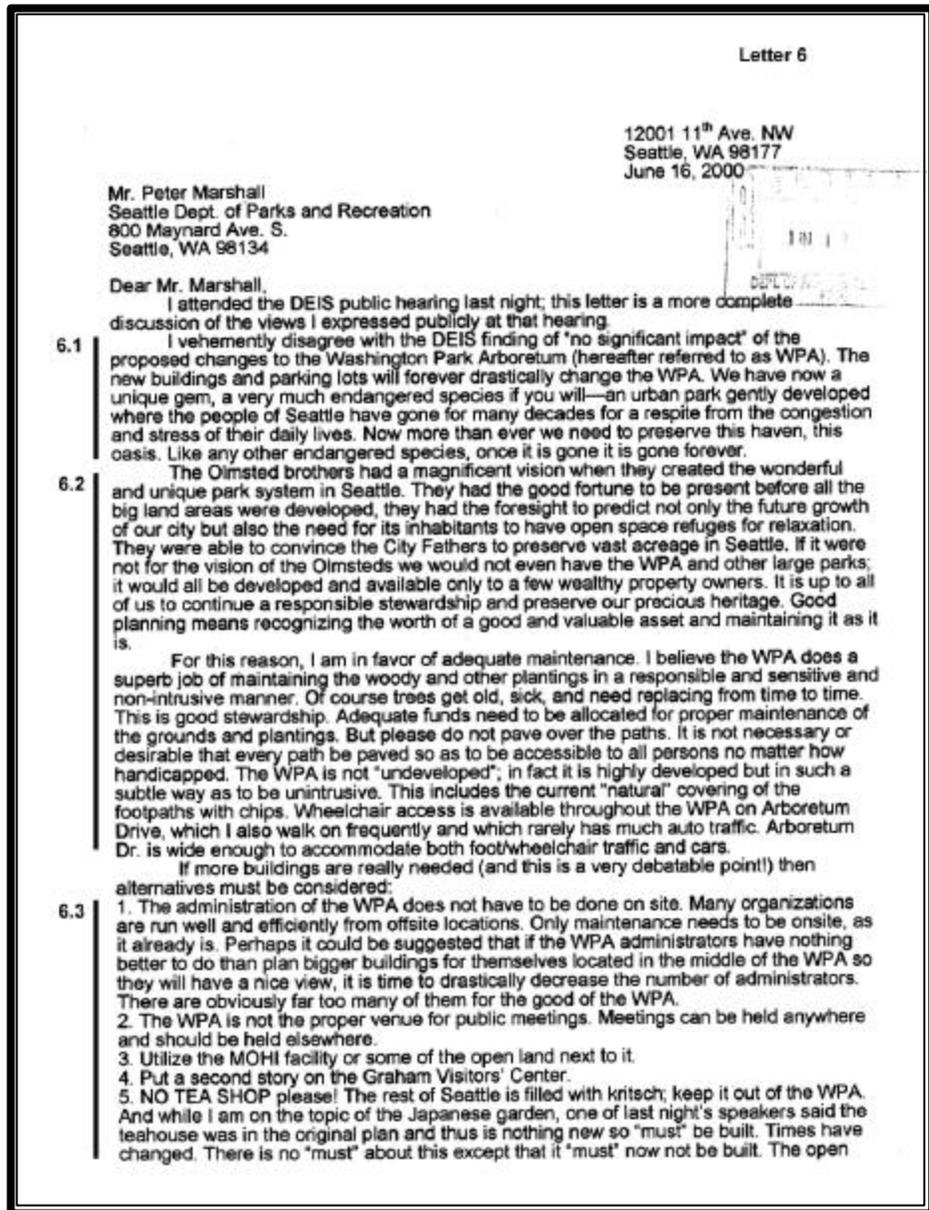


**6. Gretchen Lambert**

**6.1**—Please see revised text in the final EIS. The description of the proposal in Part 2 describes revisions to the proposed plan that have been made since distribution of the draft EIS, including alternatives to some of the buildings and parking lot expansion previously proposed. Note that some of the conclusions with regard to significance of impacts also have been changed.

**6.2**—Comments acknowledged. The only proposed asphalt-paved path is the dual-use trail. Other paths that are proposed to accommodate access for the disabled would use compacted crushed rock. Crushed rock is currently used on trails in the park that receive heavy use. Low-use trails are expected to continue to be surfaced with wood chips.

**6.3**—The alternatives you list have all been included in the EIS except the second floor expansion of the Graham Visitors Center.



6.4—To clarify, the proposed master plan would increase the number of car spaces by one and would add eight spaces for buses.

6.5—See the responses to comments 2.1 and 5.1, and Appendix D.

6.6—To clarify, only one draft EIS was produced.

(Letter 6)

space taken for granted all these years needs to be preserved, in the Japanese garden as well. It is not a large garden after all, only a small fraction of the size of the famous ones in Japan.

6.4 Please do not replace the existing numerous small inconspicuous readily accessible parking lots scattered throughout the WPA with a few large ones! There are currently adequate parking spaces on all but a very few days per year; only at special events is parking limited, and even then only around the Visitors' Center. I visit the park at least weekly, usually more often, from my home in NW Seattle. NEVER have I seen all the parking spaces utilized. I repeat. NEVER. I do not believe that increased parking is necessary and I strongly oppose any changes in the current parking.

**Billboards** (you may call them by any other name but that's what they are): get rid of the ones already up and do not put up any more! They are a horrible eyesore, an intrusion, an insult to the intelligence and sensitivity of park visitors. They are a distressing distraction from what is the main attraction—the natural beauty of the WPA.

The Arboretum Foundation president spoke last night, mentioning the word "potential" many times, implying that the WPA has not until now lived up to its "potential" and must be partially destroyed and developed in order to realize his vision of its "potential". I maintain that, on the contrary, the WPA has admirably lived up to its potential to be a place of refuge, beautiful tranquility, and relaxation for the people of Seattle. We do not want or need a "world class botanical garden". The WPA currently provides a balanced mix of botanical garden and park. We do not want or need a place for public meetings.

6.5 I do not believe that you have adequately polled the WPA visitors on their views about the planned changes. The Arboretum Park Preservation Coalition has interviewed many hundreds of visitors and they have the statistics to prove it. Where are your questionnaires? Where are your statistics to justify your claims of "no significant impact"? You must show us the results of an adequate poll of Seattle teachers to justify your claims that facilities are necessary for some 15,000 students bussed per year to the WPA. You must show us the results of an adequate poll of park visitors who have stated that they want more buildings, they want fewer but larger parking lots located only at the ends of the WPA, they want the footpaths paved, they want more lights for security, they want more billboards intruding upon and blocking their view of the very things the billboards are trumpeting about. Spend hours, days, and weeks at the WPA, talk to people as many of us have already done who spoke at last night's meeting; you will find out that we do not want any of these things! At the next Park Board public hearing we want to see the results of these polls. The DEIS makes many unjustified and unsubstantiated statements about "needs". You must back up every statement with adequate statistics in order for us to accept any of the changes you are proposing.

6.6 I am angry that the revised DEIS is very little changed from the original DEIS. It still does not reflect the views of the majority of Seattle residents. We have spoken up before, and our views have so far been largely disregarded. I hope that the next version is a more accurate and acceptable plan.

Sincerely,  
  
Gretchen Lambert

## 7. Wade and Shirley Vaughn

**7.1**—The EIS does not discuss the impacts of making Lake Washington Boulevard open to local access only, because it is part of neither the existing master plan nor the Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee (ABGC) proposed master plan, nor is it among the alternatives identified in the formal scoping process that preceded preparation of the draft EIS. While such a measure would meet some of the objectives of the proposal, previous discussions of this possibility suggest that it would require restrictions to use of the boulevard that would have substantial impacts on neighboring streets and would alter the boulevard's original intended use as a connector within the city's open space system.

**7.2**—See the response to comment 2.4.

**7.3**—See the response to comment 1.3.

**7.4**—The fountain, which was proposed in the original *Greenprint* plan, is not part of the proposed master plan being evaluated in the EIS.

**7.5**—The proposal for the plantings on Azalea way is to renovate with improved, disease-resistant plant selections according to historic themes of cherries, rhododendrons, and dogwoods.

**7.6**—See the response to comment 4.28.

**7.7**— The proposed master plan does not describe any specific signage for the canopy walk or any other location. Also see the response to comment 4.3.

**7.8**—See the response to comment 1.1.

Letter 7

TO: Peter Marshall  
Seattle Dept. of Parks & Recreation  
800 Maynard Ave. S.  
Seattle, WA 98134  
FROM: Wade Vaughn & Shirley Vaughn  
316 Randolph Ave.  
Seattle, WA 98122  
DATE:  
SUBJECT: Arboretum DEIS

We have walked through the Arboretum on various occasions ever since we were married in 1959. I (Wade) having been born in Seattle in 1929, did the same before 1959 and before the Japanese Tea Garden was incorporated in the Arboretum. When walking home from the UW, I always make it a point to walk the full length of this "forest within the city." We strongly believe that this natural environment should not be disturbed or reduced in size by the addition of buildings and more parking lots.

**7.1** We have noticed that over the years the increased traffic through the Arboretum has made Azalea Way noisy and smelly. We would like to see Lake Washington Boulevard made for local access only to the northern and southern ends of the Arboretum.

There are a number of points in the DEIS that we would like to comment upon.

**7.2** 1. No reference is made to Seattle city Ordinance 103667 which specifies that there shall be no non-park uses permitted in the arboretum, including the construction of buildings.

**7.3** 2. There is no rational basis for declaring that the attractive "aesthetics" of the proposed new and expanded buildings is justification for declaring that the addition of these buildings to the Arboretum will have no environmental impact.

**7.4** 3. Erecting an artificial fountain at one end of Azalea Way shows that the ideas behind this proposal are not oriented toward maintaining the Arboretum as natural environmental landscape.

**7.5** 4. Removing numerous Azalea plants and large trees at the other end of Azalea Way is a perfect example of environmental degradation.

**7.6** 5. The environmental analysis of Moving Arboretum Drive to east of the Graham Visitor Center and adding new buildings where the road now passes the Center is faulty.  
Comparisons should be made with the road moved and:  
1. Replaced with plants.  
2. With the road replaced with two buildings.  
Note: The accompanying DEIS computer enhanced photos have been manipulated to favor the two proposed buildings.

**7.7** 6. The large signage for the Canopy Walk instead of being unobtrusive to minimize distracting from the environment are ugly, "billboard style, advertising type." displays.

**7.8** 7. Changes in trails are not specified in a manner that clearly compares the existing trail system with the proposed changes.

8. This DEIS is an extremely biased document. The above critique does not begin to cover all the outright biased statements made in the DEIS.

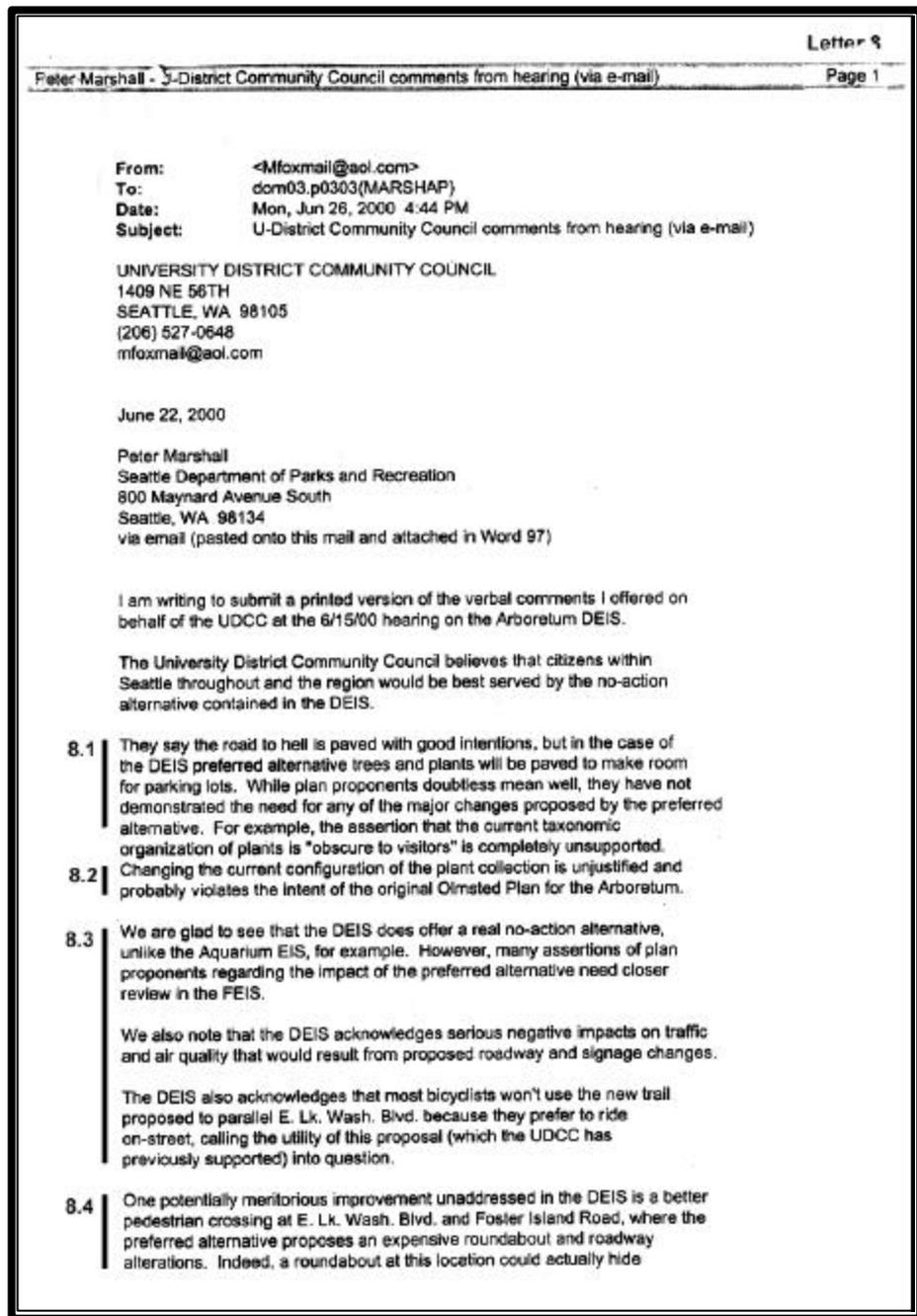
**8. Matthew Fox,  
University District  
Community Council**

**8.1**—Please see the response to comment 2.1. The EIS is not intended to provide justification for the proposal. However, with regard specifically to the expanded educational program, the ABGC has provided additional background. Please see Appendix D for this information.

**8.2**—See the response to comment 2.10.

**8.3**—The proposed bicycle/pedestrian dual-use trail would be designed primarily for park users. To minimize impacts to vegetation, the trail would not be as wide as bicycle commuters prefer. It is expected to function well for families with small children and others who prefer avoiding car traffic even if it means riding more slowly.

**8.4**—The roundabout proposed for this intersection is no longer under consideration. Your comment that pedestrian safety would have been a concern is acknowledged. The intersection would be realigned, but the stop controls and permitted traffic movements would be the same as today, the primary difference being that the SR 520 ramp would be extended and narrowed to two lanes (subject to approval of Washington State Department of Transportation and the Seattle Department of Transportation). Pedestrian crossings would be considered in the design of the realigned intersection, and would be integrated with new trails and pedestrian overpass routes as appropriate. The no-action alternative is defined as the program that would remain in place under the existing 1978 master plan, with certain modifications where portions of



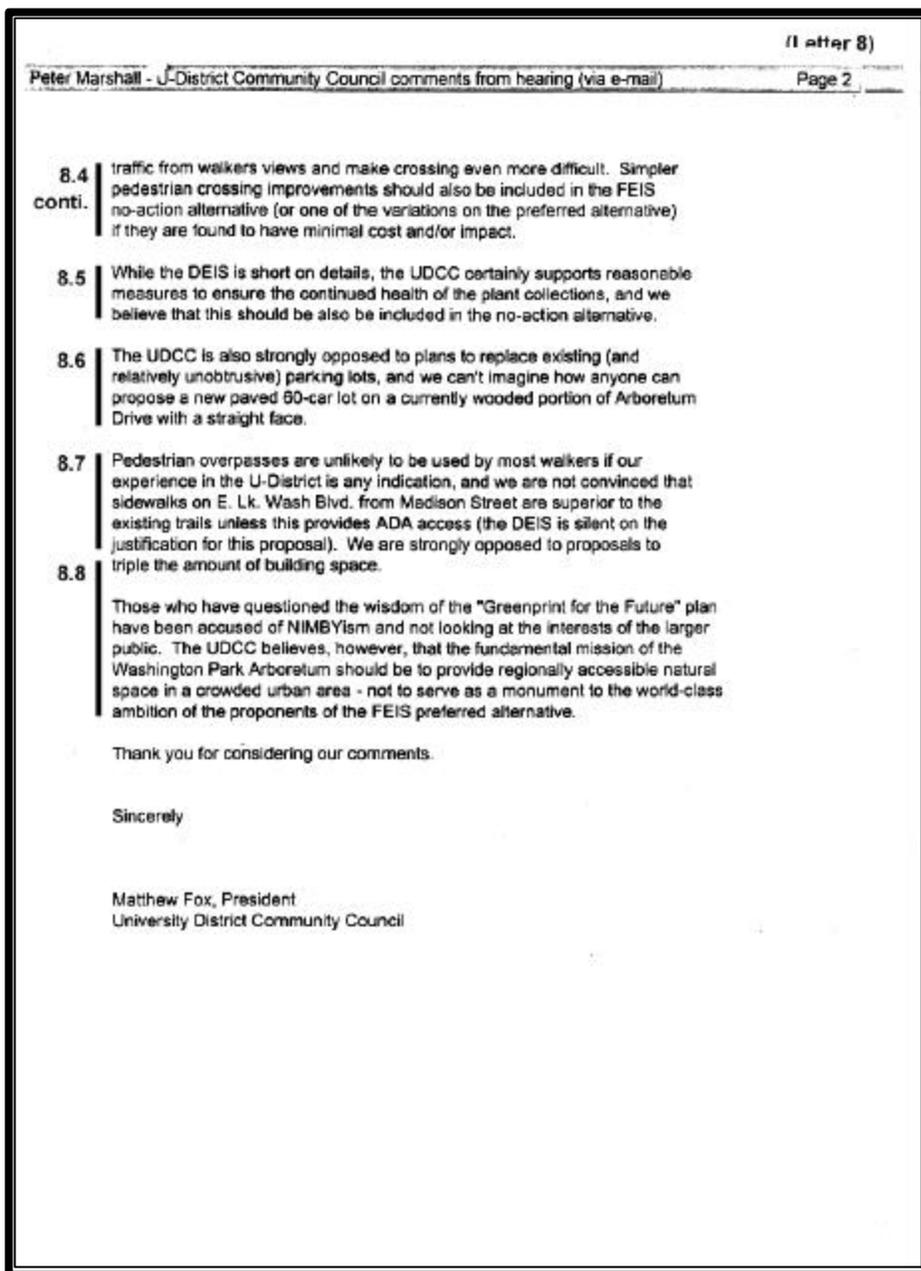
that plan proves infeasible. The only changes to pedestrian facilities under the no-action alternative would be improvements to access for the disabled, although no specifics are provided. Assuming that simpler and more effective pedestrian crossings would also serve the disabled better, they would not be precluded under the no-action alternative.

**8.5**—See the response to comment 2.3.

**8.6**—The proposed location for the Madrona Terrace parking lot (currently proposed for 30 cars) includes two existing parking areas with a total of 16 cars, some lawn areas, and some wooded area. See the description of the proposal in Part 2 of the final EIS, which describes revisions to the proposed plan that have been made since distribution of the draft EIS, including alternatives to some of the buildings and parking lots previously proposed.

**8.7**—As with other elements of the plan, the exact design and locations of the proposed overpasses have not been chosen, so it is difficult to predict levels of use. The proponent (ABGC) indicates that the overpasses are intended to meet ADA rules for accessibility, but the purpose is to provide grade-separated access for all visitors, not merely to meet ADA rules.

**8.8**—Comment acknowledged.



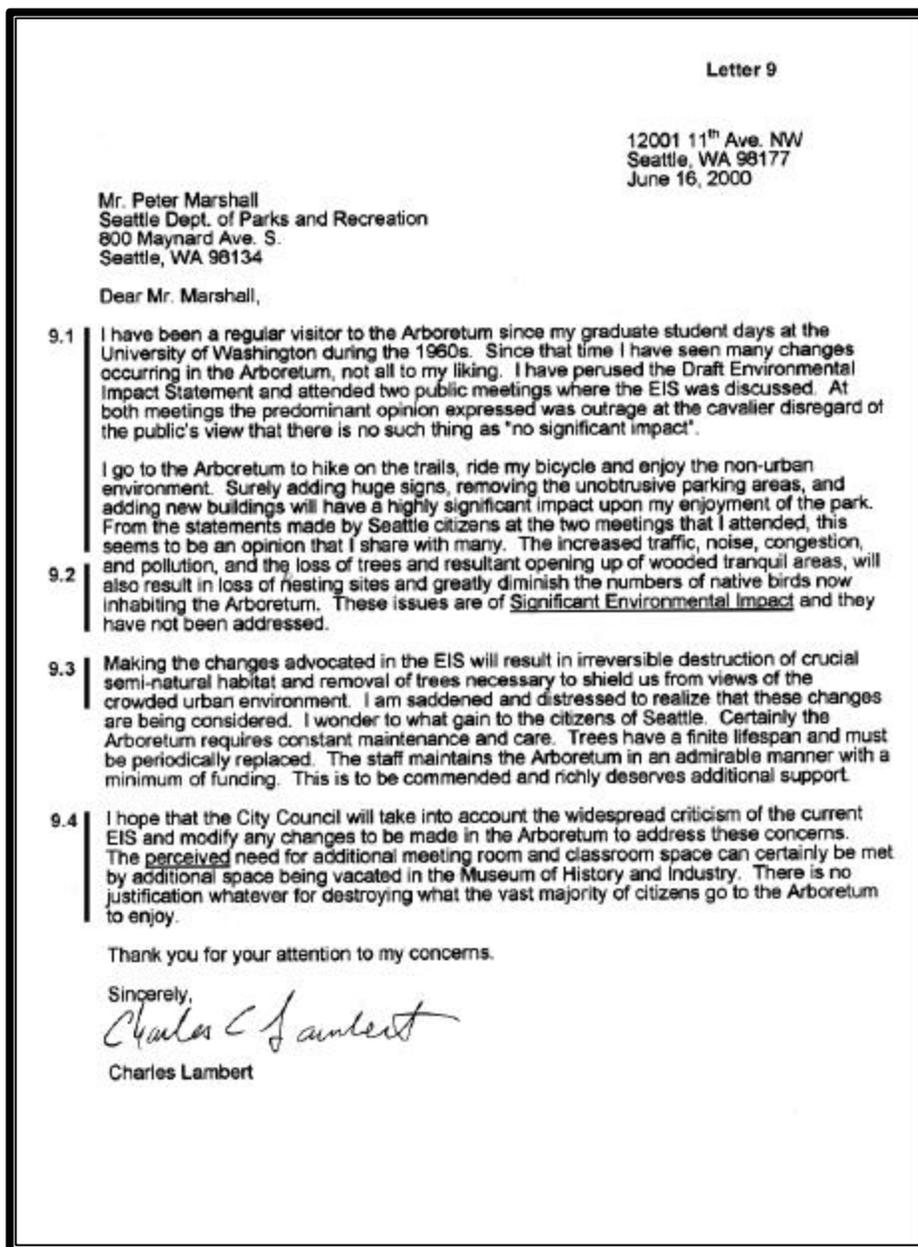
**9. Charles Lambert**

**9.1**—Please see the response to comment 1.3.

**9.2**—The impacts you describe have been analyzed in the EIS. With regard to conclusions about significance, see the Major Conclusions, Areas of Controversy, and Issues to Be Resolved section of the final EIS.

**9.3**—See the response to comment 5.5.

**9.4**—The environmental impacts of using the Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI) for some of the program uses are discussed in the EIS. At this time, MOHAI holds a lease and expects to continue to use at least a portion of that site for storage after the museum moves. The Department of Parks and Recreation is exploring the availability and suitability of the MOHAI site for some functions. The proponent (ABGC) has determined that the facilities at MOHAI are well situated for teaching the wetland environmental education program, and that some other functions could be located there. The proposed master plan includes use of that site for non-park related functions, such as certain administrative and fund-raising offices, and the facilities proposed in the park have been reduced in size accordingly.



**10. Paul Gibson**

**10.1**—Several comments were received regarding the roles of parties involved with preparing the proposed master plan and the EIS. These roles are clarified in the Historical Background section in Part 2 of the final EIS.

**10.2**—See the response to comment 1.3.

Letter 10

**Comments on DEIS for the WPA master plan, June 2000**

Submitted by Paul Gibson

My remarks deal with the objectivity and thus the reliability of the EIS, which I find to be significantly compromised for several reasons. My point is not that such compromise is inappropriate, which it may or may not be, I'm not sure. But when the objectivity is compromised, I do believe that it is incumbent upon the publishers to make clear to the readers such a condition.

**10.1** | The ABGC proposal, which is the main subject of this EIS, is a revision of The Arboretum Plan: A Greenprint for the Future, published and endorsed by the ABGC in 1997. The second group listed on the project planning team of that plan is Herrera Environmental Consultants. Now it may be that the Department of Parks and Recreation could not find any other firm that was both competent and willing to do this EIS. Nevertheless, we have here a case in which the impacts of the plan are being evaluated by some of the same people who developed the plan.

Secondly, I was recently allowed access to some of the communications to, from and between the Department surrounding preparation of the EIS. There I learned that before the Draft EIS was completed and published, a preliminary DEIS was done and circulated among some interested parties, not the APPC of course, but including the ABGC, i.e. the proponents of the plan. Interestingly enough some of the responses from the ABGC made it verbatim into the EIS.

Again, I am not saying that this is necessarily improper. I am saying that it should be candidly revealed that the EIS is not the product of disinterested, objective outside reviewers. This is particularly germane given that very central conclusions of the EIS are almost totally subjective. I'm referring to those concerning the impacts of the plan on the aesthetic and recreational qualities of Washington Park.

**10.2** | For example, the EIS concludes that, although some folks might not agree there really won't be any significant impacts on the aesthetics. In reaching this conclusion, the EIS fails to acknowledge this interesting finding from masters thesis done in 1968 on who goes to the Arboretum and why:

(Letter 10)

10.2 | *"The major reason that the Arboretum clientele are there - enjoying the  
conti. | esthetic features of the area rather than its educational and scientific  
features, appears to be an unintended consequence of the selection of the  
Olmsted Brothers firm as the designers of the Arboretum. The Olmsteds  
designed an apparently 'natural' environment which has attracted people  
for its beauty and amenity value."*

The EIS reaches its conclusion of nonsignificant aesthetic impacts despite a plethora of information to the effect that it is the particular aesthetics of the place that make it loved.

Furthermore, I believe this hidden bias manifests itself in the unquestioned acceptance of the goals of the ABGC, and the significantly edited version of history, that the EIS provides.

## 11. Paul Gibson

11.1—The historical background is not intended to present a biased position one way or another. Of necessity, it is a summary intended only to point out significant historical mileposts. Some additional information is provided in the Historical Background section of the final EIS.

Letter 11

Comments on the DEIS for the Washington Park Master Plan  
Submitted by Paul Gibson  
June 15, 2000

11.1 | A birthright, a hallmark, and a necessity for continued survival of a free people is their right to know their own history. Among our most scornful criticisms of totalitarian regimes, is their cynical treatment of history. One of the most famous dictums of western thought is that those who do not learn from history are condemned to relive it. When a person or an institution undertakes to write history there is a heavy burden to be both accurate and complete. The more official the document, the greater the burden.

There are two salient facts that are consistently ignored in the history of the Arboretum as told by the ABGC. One is that there have been repeated efforts of the University, supported by the Arboretum Foundation, to narrow the purpose of Washington Park to that of only an arboretum and the second is that all evidence, formal, casual or anecdotal indicates that the constituency for a narrow pure arboretum role for Washington Park is a rather small minority of those who go there.

The authors of the EIS seem to understand that the history of the Arboretum is relevant to the question of identifying and adopting a master plan, because they indeed include a history. Sadly, it is only that part of the history that the ABGC prefers to recall. It is like the history provided by Professor Clem Hamilton, for one of the workshops on the master plan nearly two years ago. Professor Hamilton spoke for about 20 minutes, recounting the history of the Arboretum starting with the Ice Age, and when he was done not a word had been said to explain why a couple hundred people were in the room about to do what they could to forestall another University effort to narrow the function of Washington Park.

I will say that I am gratified that this time at least you did not call the Portico plan a draft. Perhaps my rude letter on that subject made some modest impression.

Following here is a list of errors and omissions in the history provided in the EIS.

**11.2**—See the response to comment 2.4.

**11.3**—Thank you; your comments add to the historical background provided in the EIS.

**11.4**—The report was prepared for the Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee (ABGC), which includes Department of Parks and Recreation representatives as members. The EIS text has been revised accordingly. On page 2 of that report, the consultant identifies the needs he had heard for preparing a new master plan, while the remainder of the document portrays in greater detail the issues that the plan should address.

**11.5**—The summary is not intended to obscure information found in other documents. The text of the EIS has been revised.

(Letter 11)

- 11.1 | 1. The second paragraph on page 21 begins, "When the University of  
conti. | Washington was sited at its present-day location, it was determined that an  
off site location for an arboretum would be needed." A more accurate  
statement would be that, after three designated arboreta on the campus  
had been reassigned to other uses, it was determined by those who desired a  
University Arboretum that an off campus location would be desirable.
- 11.2 | 2. Between 1972 and 1974 the University clearly and forthrightly proclaimed  
that it was not in the business of running a public park and required for its  
continued participation in Washington Park that a fence be erected and the  
University be allowed to set the rules for what would go on within the fence.  
26,000 signatures of Seattle citizens, ratifying a ballot initiative, effectively  
called the University's bluff and prevented Washington Park from becoming  
exclusively an arboretum. In the EIS history this entire episode is ignored  
except for a partial printing of the ordinance that was adopted at the time.  
The portion of the ordinance that is omitted is that which explicitly prohibits  
construction of University classrooms and offices among other things.
- 11.3 | 3. The statement on page 22 that the reason for creation of the Center For  
Urban Horticulture was to reaffirm the University's managerial role in  
Washington Park is disingenuous and leads the reader away from the true  
reason which was to provide a location for University activities which were  
precluded in Washington Park by Ordinance 103667.
- 11.4 | 4. The study referred to at the top of page 23 was not prepared by DPR and  
its announced purpose was not to determine whether a new master plan was  
needed. (One sentence, two errors.) The need for a new plan was assumed  
and the purpose of the document was to define the scope of the plan.
- 11.5 | 5. The next paragraph states, "After an extensive public outreach effort,  
key issues were identified, including the health and security of the plant  
collections, programing and visitor facilities, visitor security, accessibility,  
and circulation". According to The Arboretum Plan, A Greenprint for the  
Future, the first plan adopted by the ABGC, the "extensive public outreach"  
consisted of two public meetings. The comments at the first of those  
meetings were summarized in six statements including,
- \*Participants did not express much interest in building more facilities,  
Suggestions include making better use of existing facilitates for education  
purposes.

11.6—Comment acknowledged.

11.7—Thank you. The text has been corrected to reflect that the revised plan was developed and that alternatives were subsequently developed in the EIS scoping process.

(Letter 11)

11.5 | \*Conducting a careful planning process that maintains the unique  
cont. | character/qualities of The Arboretum was suggested. (The Arboretum  
Plan, A Greenprint for the Future, p. 106)

In other words, the DEIS goes even further than the "Greenprint" in  
construing the public response as supporting the ABGC aspirations. This is a  
shameful misrepresentation of the response.

11.6 | 6. The DEIS goes on to state, "After the plan was completed, the Seattle  
Board of Park Commissioner held several workshops to address particular  
issue in the plan." Sure, that's true. But it is more true to reveal that  
following completion of the plan was that the ABGC endorsed the plan in the  
most enthusiastic terms and set about selling it to the public. However the  
public was not buying. Having tried to tell the plan promoters and writers at  
both the scoping level and the public outreach, that building in the park was  
not welcome, only to be confronted with a grandiose plan with new buildings  
scattered all over the park, the public galvanized into a resistance which,  
finally got the attention of the Parks Department, and led, after the  
workshops, to a rewrite of the plan. In the rewrite, little if any of the  
building and programmatic ambitions went away, although the placement of  
some of the building was significantly improved.

11.7 | 7. The second to last sentence of the second paragraph on page 23  
confuses the revised plan with the scoping document for the EIS. It was the  
scoping document that contained viable alternatives.

If the EIS is to contain a recounting of the history, it must be both accurate  
and complete. Otherwise it constitutes a theft of our heritage and our right  
to know the past. I don't know if I am more angry or more sad, but I am  
definitely sad that the DPR would allow this to happen.

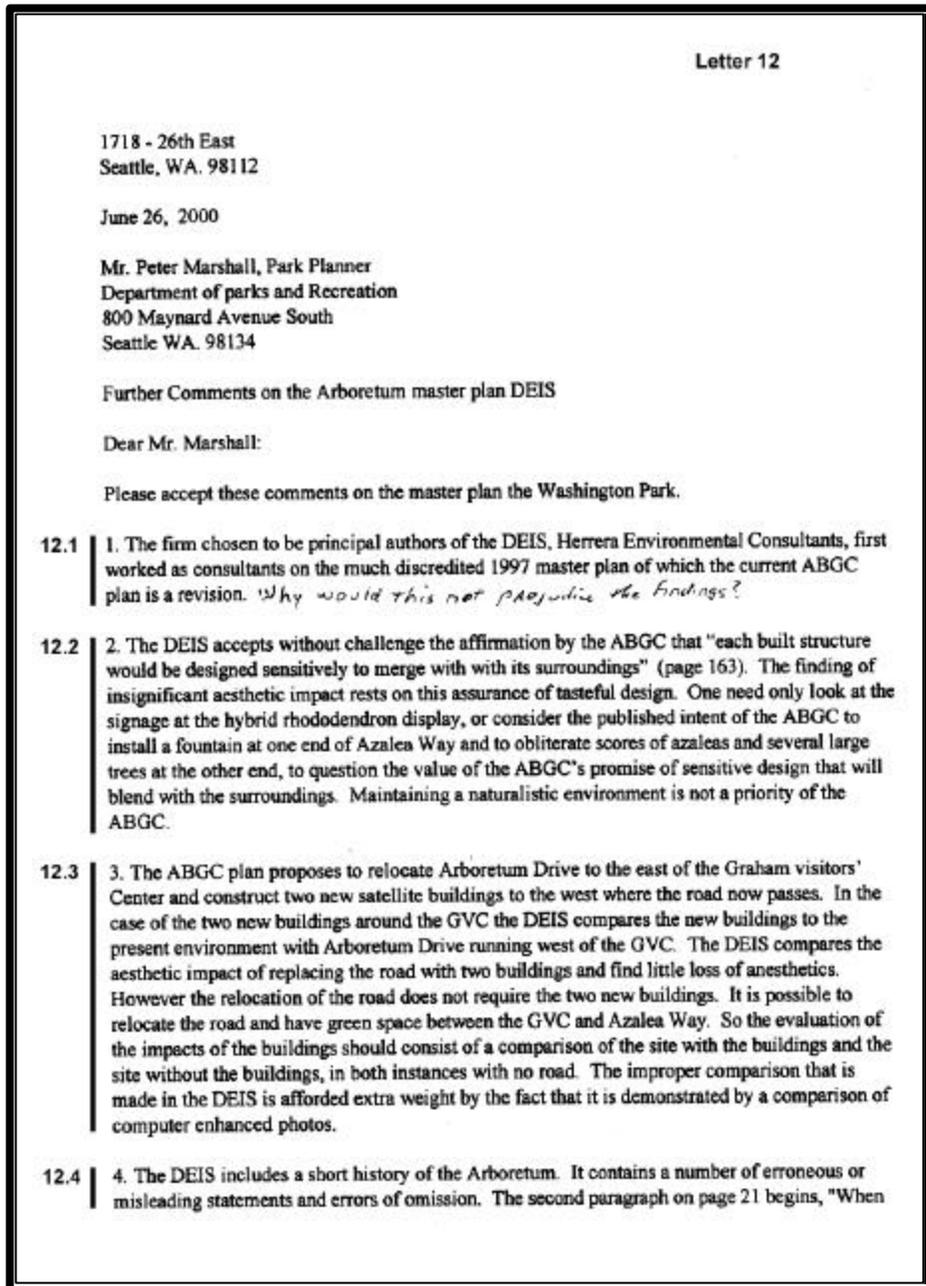
**12. Paul Gibson**

**12.1**— Several comments express perceptions of bias on the part of the project proponent or the consultants involved with preparing the proposed master plan and the EIS. See the Historical Background section in Part 2 of the final EIS for a synopsis of the roles of each of the parties involved in preparation of this document.

**12.2**—The plan is conceptual, and thus the only impacts that can be discerned are those that proceed from the intent of the plan. Most of the existing structures in the park have been constructed under the guidance of the ABGC, and those are generally considered to be well-sited and designed; thus it is reasonable to conclude that similar results could be accomplished under the proposed master plan. It is also reasonable to assume that people could disagree on what constitutes a structure that is designed sensitively.

**12.3**—The purpose of the simulation is to show the impacts of the full proposal if implemented (i.e., the worst-case scenario). It is hoped that readers can use the simulation to infer that the road could be removed and the buildings could remain the same as in the existing image.

**12.4**—See the response to comment 11.1.



12.5—See the response to comment 2.4.

12.6—See the response to comment 11.4.

12.7—See the response to comment 11.5.

12.8—See the response to comment 11.6

(Letter 12)

12.4 | the University of Washington was sited at its present-day location, it was determined that an off  
conti. | site location for an arboretum would be needed." A more accurate statement would be that, after  
building over three designated arboreta on the campus, it was determined by those who desired a  
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\*Participants did not express much interest in building more facilities. Suggestions include  
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ambitions went away, although the placement of some of the building was significantly  
improved.

If the DEIS is to contain a recounting of the history, it must be both accurate and complete.  
Otherwise it constitute a theft of our heritage and our right to know the past.

**12.9**—The canopy walk is proposed in concept but has not been designed. The walk would be an elevated structure bridging two hills. The structure would contrast with the surrounding tree cover and would present an additional built element in the naturalistic setting. Hence it would likely be perceived by some people as having adverse aesthetic impacts.

**12.10**—See the response to comment 4.3.

**12.11**—See the response to comment 2.4.

**12.12**—See the response to comment 1.1. The west-side trail would incorporate much of the existing alignment but would be modified to accommodate barrier-free access. The ABGC recognizes the difficulty in connecting the trail beneath or over the unused SR 520 ramp. The trail connections and layouts in the proposed master plan are conceptual, and specific design alternatives would be explored for each new trail.

**12.13**—See the response to comment 2.1.

(Letter 12)

**12.9** | 9. There is little, if any, discussion of the impacts of the canopy walk. It is definitely ignored in the discussion of aesthetics.

**12.10** | 10. There is no discussion of the aesthetic impact of signage. That there should be signage in an arboretum is not unreasonable. However signage may be either aggressive, seeking to catch the attention of anyone passing by irrespective if they have any particular interest in the sign, or it may be more passive, available to the curious, but not "in-your-face". The general public has made clear its preference for the later on many occasions, but the DEIS does not make the distinction, or even notice the possibility that signage can be offensive.

**12.11** | 11. There is no reference in the DEIS to the limitations on buildings specified in Ordinance 103667. That Ordinance says in part, "The City of Seattle shall not enter into any use agreement for said park lands which in any way allows for non-park uses of any portion thereof. Non-park uses shall include, but not be limited to, the construction or use of buildings for university classrooms, offices, laboratories, or administration buildings." Since university classrooms are not inherently different from other classrooms, the prohibition would seem to apply to the buildings in the ABGC proposal.

**12.12** | 12. Another strange and rather important omission is that of a trail map that indicates on the same map the existing trails and the proposed alterations. This makes it virtually impossible to make an assessment of the change in trails and one wonders how the folks doing the DEIS managed to conclude that such qualities as the aesthetics and recreation would not be adversely impacted by changes in the trails. There are at least two glaring errors in the proposed trail system, the failure of which to discover casts grave doubt on the work of the authors of the EIS. The plan calls for completion of a loop trail around Foster Island, MOHAI and back to Duck Bay by way of a path under SR 520. One needs only to walk to the place where this path is supposed to pass below the freeway to see the folly of the design. There is no room there for a path to go. The plan also calls for a path to traverse the Arboretum from north to south, west of Lake Washington Boulevard. Strangely there is already such a path. Are we to have two path twenty feet apart? Who's doing the thinking here?

**12.13** | 13. The DEIS reproduces without evaluation the ABGC's justification for the plan.

13. A. There is no doubt that we have increased population and increased usage of Washington Park. However to conclude that, for a mixed use facility such as Washington Park, these factors dictate an extravagant expansion of the museum, in ways that are damaging to the natural green space aspects, flies in the face of logic. Higher denser population surely does not imply less demand for natural green space, less greenspace is what this plan provides.

13. B. New demands for fiscal sustainability are sited as a reason for doing a new master plan, but the strategy of the plan, namely creating profit centers such as rental space and tea rooms in new buildings is not only sacrificial of other park goals, according to the financial evaluation published along with the DEIS, it is a strategy that doesn't work. The projected budgeted short

**12.14**—SEPA rules require the EIS to list the proposal's objectives but not to evaluate their validity.

**12.15**—See the response to comment 3.21.

**12.16**—Arboretum staff responds that several rare, threatened, or endangered species have been successfully cultivated at the arboretum. The primary difference between cultivating these and other specimens is that they are inconspicuously located and labeled until they are large enough to be safe from theft.

**12.17**—Thank you for adding the information regarding the acquisitions at the west side of the park. The history of property accumulation for the park includes several other acquisitions as well, some of which were omitted from the short summary in the EIS. Also see the response to comment 4.31.

**12.18**—See the response to comment 1.3 and revisions to the discussion of areas of controversy in Part 1 of the final EIS.

(Letter 12)

**12.13** | fall, when the plan is finished is about \$1.8 million per year in current dollars.  
conti.

13.C. The new plan is justified partially on the basis of inadequate maintenance being provided to the current collection. The plan "solves" this problem by proposing a dramatic increase in the collection to be cared for.

**12.14** | 14. Worse still is the uncritical acceptance of the ABGC's goals and objectives. Or if goals and objectives are not deemed a proper focus of evaluation, but rather just some information to include, then the report should list the goals and objectives of the APPC as well. So far as anyone has determined, no one from Herrera Environmental Consultants asked anyone from the APPC what our goals might be.

**12.15** | The education goal for the ABGC plan includes increasing the number school kids served from 2,500 to 15,000. This assumes bringing kids from all over the City and from the east side which in turns infers busing kids past Carkeek Park, Lincoln Park, Discovery Park, Camp Long, the Bellevue Botanical Garden and other places with education programs or potential, in order to get them to Washington Park. How smart is that?

**12.16** | Another goofy goal that is listed , but not evaluated in the DEIS is to use this arboretum as a place to preserve threatened species. It is acknowledged that the Washington Park Arboretum is not a pure arboretum. As such it may be somewhat less secure than alternatives that are dedicated solely as arboreta. Given this truth, why would we choose to increase the role of the Washington Park Arboretum as a preserve of endangered species? Shouldn't that particular role be fulfilled by a pure arboretum?

**12.17** | 15. In their history of the physical growth of the park, the authors overlook the addition in the 1970's of the two blocks of one time Montlake homes that were added to the park. The authors also repeat the fatuous claim that loss of vegetation and erosion at Duck Bay is due to boat launchings. These may be issues of small magnitude, but to make such simple errors impugn those judgments that are rendered in areas that do matter.

**12.18** | 16. At the end of the summary, the conclusion that the ABGC proposal will not result in significant impacts is explained in part as due to the intended scale and design compatibility of the new with the existing components of the Arboretum. The DEIS then predicts that based on the record of public input it is likely that there will be controversy over the DEIS conclusions. What this boils down to with regard to such categories as aesthetics and recreation, is, while Herrera concludes that there will be no significant impacts, the public, i.e. those being impacted, are likely to think otherwise. That is, the public thinks it is going to be impacted, but Herrera and Associates knows better. For the authors of an DEIS to acknowledge their own fallibility is at least refreshing. I'm afraid that they got it more wrong than they suppose.

Paul Gibson

**Paul Gibson, Northeast District Council**

**13.1**—Please see revised text of the Major Conclusions, Areas of Controversy, and Issues to Be Resolved sections in the final EIS.

**13.2**—See the response to comment 2.4.

Letter 13

Northeast District Council  
4534 University Way N.E.  
Seattle WA. 98105

June 17, 2000

Mr. Peter Marshall, Park Planner  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
800 Maynard Avenue South  
Seattle WA. 98134

Re: DEIS for the Washington Park master plan

Dear Mr. Marshall:

The Northeast District Council is comprised of 17 community and business groups surrounding the University of Washington and extending north to N.E. 95th Street. In the summer of 1998, the Council adopted a resolution pertaining to the Washington Park Arboretum. These comments are based upon that resolution.

- 13.1 | The last paragraph on page 15 includes a sentence describing alternative views for Washington Park, to wit: "One vision emphasizes the citywide and regional value and unique function of the arboretum, while another vision emphasizes the existing state of the park and its function as a neighborhood resource." The Northeast District Council takes strong exception to this sentence. In our knowledge of the public comment throughout this process, no one has emphasized the function of Washington Park as a neighborhood resource. That claim is a caricature of the position of advocates of a broader purpose for Washington Park, advanced by the advocates of a narrow view of the function of Washington Park. In fact, advocates for the broad view, including the Northeast District Council, come from all over the city. It is a grave error for an official document such as the EIS to misconstrue this point. The value of park space as opposed to buildings and parking lots is extremely important citywide, as demonstrated by citizen efforts at Bradner Gardens, Discovery Park and West Crest Park just in the last few years.
- 13.2 | The EIS is flawed in its failure to identify relevant law, particularly the omission of the proscription of buildings for non park uses such as

**13.3**—None of the elements of the proposed master plan or alternatives involve sale or transfer of park property or change of park usage as regulated by Seattle ordinance 111606.

**13.4**—See the responses to comments 1.1, 1.2, and 4.3.

**13.5**—The EIS conclusions regarding the significance of some impacts have been revised. With regard to signs, see the response to comment 4.3. With regard to overall design sensitivity, see the response to comment 1.4. For clarification, the maintenance buildings are proposed to be expanded only within the existing maintenance yard.

**13.6**—See the response to comment 1.5.

(Letter 13)

**13.2** | classrooms, etc. which is part of Ordinance Neither does the EIS mention  
conti. | that under proposition 42 conversion of park space to rental space and  
**13.3** | other commercial space would trigger the requirement to replace the lost  
park land with comparable land nearby.

**13.4** | The EIS finds no significant impact from trail and plant revisions even though those revisions are only sketchily defined at best. The impact of signage is totally ignored, despite recent evidence that new and renovated exhibits would include signs far larger and more obtrusive than those historically present in the Arboretum.

**13.5** | The finding that there would be no significant adverse impact on the recreational and aesthetic qualities is rationalized on two assertions, 1. new buildings would be designed in ways compatible with the surroundings and 2. changes would occur over a substantial period of time. Reliance on the design sensitivity of the ABGC ignores the considerable evidence of that committee's indifference to the naturalistic environment of Washington Park. This evidence includes the desecration of the north end of Azalea Way and the needless installation of the maintenance building in existent greenspace, that the ABGC enthusiastically endorsed in the Portico plan. It is further demonstrated by the trend in intrusive signage that has developed in recent years.

**13.6** | Though the plan is indeed intended to be a plan for several decades, that is no assurance that large amounts of physical change will not happen quickly. In the Jones and Jones plan, also ostensibly a long range plan, the building component was completed in the first decade. Even if buildings and other alterations of the park were to be accomplished slowly, to use that as a justification for the finding of no significant impact is ill thought out. It suggests that a change from greenspace to hardscape can be done slowly enough that park visitors won't notice the difference between the before and the after. This boggles the mind. If the object is to fool the people so they won't notice that there is change going on until it is too late, then the idea has merit. If the object of the EIS is to gauge in some way how visitors feel about a change from greenspace to hardscape, then the observation is a shameful ploy. There are times, such as when one is circling Benaroya Hall 5 minutes before a concert, when one would rather see a parking lot than a greenspace, but to suggest that visitors can't tell the difference between a parking lot and trees and grass when they are walking in the Arboretum, irrespective of when it is installed, is ludicrous.

13.7—Additional discussion of aesthetic impacts is provided in the final EIS.

13.8—See the response to comments 1.1 and 1.2.

(Letter 13)

- 13.7 One of the few objective considerations that might be employed in assessing the esthetic impact of the changes is the number of people who come to Washington Park for horticultural education versus the number that come for respite provided by the greenspace environment. All evidence indicates that the latter is the dominate reason people go to the Arboretum which indicates that tampering with that quality is indeed likely to be significant.
- 13.8 Finally there is inadequate description of how the trails and exhibits would be changed in the execution of the plan. There needs to be a map with the current layout of trails and exhibits and some kind of over lay map of the intended changes so that readers may know with some precision what will go and what will stay. A judgment of the aesthetic and recreational consequences of the plan without such a comparison is surely not reliable.

In summary we find the DEIS to be inadequate in four areas. It misrepresents the objections of opponents. It fails to note critical legal issues. It bases the conclusion of insignificant esthetic and recreational impacts on unsupported assumptions. And it accepts the plans inadequate specification of changes to the trails and exhibits. We look forward to a thorough and candid correction of these deficiencies in the final EIS.

Respectfully,



Paul Gibson  
Chair

**14. Chuck Pearman**

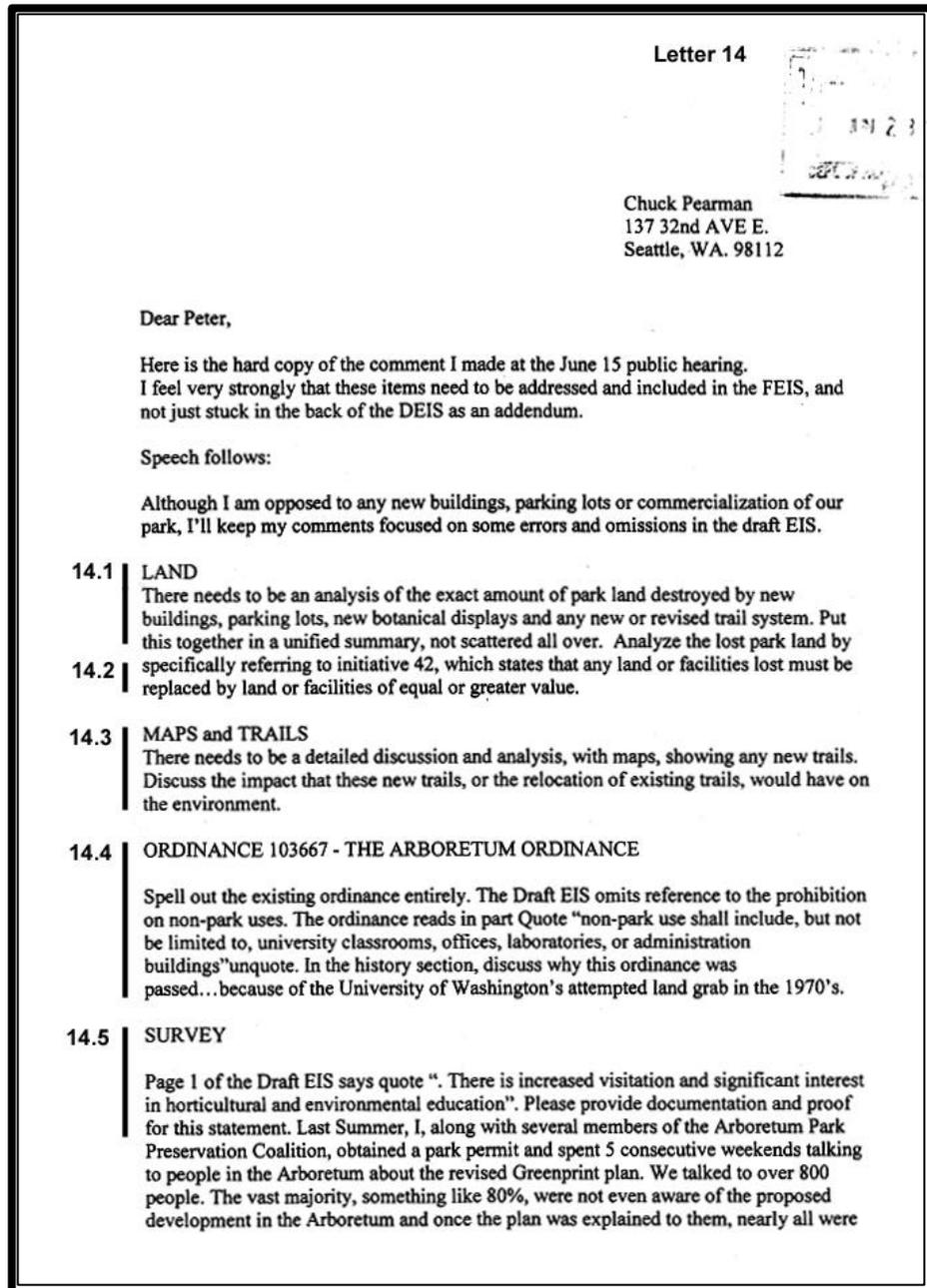
**14.1**—Please see the response to comment 5.2 and the table at the end of Appendix A in the final EIS.

**14.2**—See the response to comment 13.3.

**14.3**—See the response to comment 1.1.

**14.4**—See the response to comment 2.4.

**14.5**—See the response to comment 2.1



14.6—Comment  
acknowledged.

(Letter 14)

14.6 | against new buildings, new parking lots, and generally against commercialization of our park. These people were not botanical or horticultural experts, just ordinary citizens who wanted to escape the city, escape the traffic and have a quiet walk in our Arboretum.

BALANCE

The final master plan for the Arboretum, whatever mix and match of alternatives is finally settled on, should contain a clear and firm statement, that first and foremost Washington Park is a park. A park that contains an arboretum. That the balance between park and botanical is just about right and that any new master plan be subject to the constraints of the existing ordinance prohibiting buildings, fences and fees.

In closing, I note the irony of the Greenprint Plan. A plan that will destroy a significant portion of a natural environment in order to teach the importance of the natural environment.

All we really need in Washington Park is better maintenance and better management. We need a management that truly represents the interests of all park users, not just the botanical elite.



**15. Peter Donahue**

**15.1**—Comment acknowledged.

**15.2**—The direct financial costs of the proposal are discussed in a separate document, *Financial Aspects of the Proposed Arboretum Master Plan*, which is available from the Department of Parks and Recreation and online at the city's web site: <http://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/parks/arboretum/ARBOFiscal512.doc>. Also see the response to comment 4.4.

**15.3**—The proposal could add some traffic during the evening peak hours by drawing more people to the park. The additional arboretum traffic through the Montlake area at any given time would not be sufficient to affect the level of service at these already congested intersections in an appreciable way. Mitigation for this impact could include limiting the time of day that programs are initiated or completed.

Letter 15

Peter Marshall - Comments on Arboretum Master Plan Proposal

Page 1

**From:** "peter t. donahue" <therock@nwlinc.com>  
**To:** dom03.p0303(MARSHAP)  
**Date:** Mon, Jun 26, 2000 7:55 PM  
**Subject:** Comments on Arboretum Master Plan Proposal

Peter T. Donahue  
2420 E. Lee Street  
Seattle WA 98112

Comments on Arboretum Master Plan Proposal

To the Arboretum and City Parks Boards and whomever else it may concern:

I hope that these comments, sent by e-mail on Monday, June 26, 2000, are timely.

I am opposed to the full development alternative, for the following reasons:

- 15.1** | The arboretum is a wonderful and rare oasis of undeveloped and semi-natural landscape within a relatively dense urban area. Its open space, peace and quiet, wildlife habitat, and natural qualities should be preserved and protected, not developed further to meet short-sighted notions of "optimum" use (like the realtors' rubric, "highest and best use") and "world class" grandiosity. It does not need tea rooms, more parking, more pavement, more facilities. It does not need to be "developed." We its neighbors, we the city's citizens, taxpayers, electors, transportation users, schoolchildren, seekers of solitude, appreciators of nature, human beings, do not need its "development." I question who it is that needs (i.e., benefits from) its "development."
- 15.2** | Have the financial projections been reviewed independently? Is this truly a good investment for the taxpayer, a good "business decision?" Does it really pencil out, or does it have the potential for actually adding to unfunded liabilities and maintenance burdens in the future? Are all of the true costs factored in the assessment, such as traffic impacts, air/water quality degradation, noise, infrastructure/ maintenance/staff burdens, debt carry, administration? Or are any of these "in-kind" or grants and therefore dismissed as real costs, real as they may be to the taxpayer, driver, breather?
- I hope that the projections are not a chimera of rationalization; I fear that the arboretum's value to the community will be sacrificed for its "survival." And if the maintenance funds are presumed to come from the upcoming parks bond election, that is improper. As much as I support dedicated tax issues in general, I feel that they should be for capital projects, not ongoing expenses such as maintenance (which should be in the general fund), and will likely vote against them for that reason. (What happens when the authorization expires? How is maintenance funded then?)
- 15.3** | On the more specific level of input, it is my contention that adding any vehicular traffic, tour bus or passenger car, to the Montlake/Lake Washington Boulevard area during the p.m. peak hour, which can occur anytime between 3 and 7 p.m. depending on the vagaries of the 520 bridge, UW activities and the cycles of the moon, is not an "nonsignificant" adverse

(Letter 15)

Peter Marshall - Comments on Arboretum Master Plan Proposal

Page 2

impact.

Please, give the Arboretum administrators and pro-development board members, and their consultants, something more truly productive to do with their Disneyland mindset. How about basic education, a need that deserves the community's time, energy and money, and is the best investment we can make?! And a sore need in this community. Let's get the basics done well, and leave the fanciful for the private sector to perform, at its own expense!

Thank you for your consideration.

**16. Larry Powelson**

**16.1**—Some information regarding past use of the arboretum for children's education is discussed in the Public Services and Utilities section of the EIS, and additional background on future education programs is provided in Appendix D. Also see the responses to comments 2.1 and 3.21.

**16.2**—See the responses to comments 4.3 and 4.8.

**16.3**—See the response to comment 5.2.

**16.4**—SEPA defines *significant* as “more than a moderate level of impact” and requires the lead agency to take into account the context of the impact. The final EIS provides additional discussion of significant impacts in several sections.

**Letter 16**

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Peter Marshall - Comments on the Draft EIS for Washington Park Arboretum Page 1

**From:** Larry Powelson <larrypo@exmsft.com>  
**To:** dom03.p0303(MARSHAP)  
**Date:** Mon, Jun 26, 2000 10:07 PM  
**Subject:** Comments on the Draft EIS for Washington Park Arboretum

**16.1** | 1. The DEIS states that the goal for the Washington Park Arboretum is to have 15,000 school kids per year go to the arboretum on field trips. There is no data to show whether or not this is a reasonable number. The final EIS must state how many kids are expected to be enrolled in the Seattle public school system when this program is ready. It must also state the desired number of environmental field trips that have been set by the Public Schools Superintendent, as well as the capacity of all other environmental sites around Seattle, including but not limited to Carkeek Park, Lincoln Park, Discovery Park, and Camp Long, as well as greenhouses located at the schools. If the Arboretum Foundation intends to support kids from the east side, then these numbers must include eastside environmental education centers such as the Bellevue Botanical Gardens, the Mercer Slough, and the arboretums planned for Carnation and Preston. The alternative plans should also indicate how many kids could come to the Arboretum if there were no classrooms present in the Arboretum itself.

**16.2** | 2. The DEIS states a goal for the Arboretum is recreation “consistent with arboretum use.” However, it does not include a statement about how arboretum use should be consistent with recreational use. During the EIS scoping process, Paul Gibson suggested, and Clem Hamilton heartily agreed, that such a statement be added. The final EIS must include a statement to that effect, as well as define the recreational uses that it must be consistent with. For example, Washington Park Arboretum is an enormous aid to the mental health of Seattle residents as a place of refuge, a respite from the works of man. This use is not consistent with the planned 51 new exhibits, especially if signage for these exhibits is of the size and scale of the new signs that appeared recently at Rhododendron Glen.

**16.3** | 3. When the DEIS compares the costs of construction in the park vs the costs of building or renting space offsite, it does not include the value of the land being constructed on. How much would a developer pay for a private building lot at Madronna Terrace? At a minimum, the Final EIS must include the costs of replacing lost open space as required by City law.

**16.4** | 4. At numerous times, the DEIS finds that various proposals have “no significant impact.” At no time, however, does it define this subjective term. The final EIS must state what they consider a “minimum significant impact” compared to which their estimated impacts fall short.

Larry Powelson  
 2642 E. Ward St.  
 Seattle, WA 98112  
 (206) 329-3672

**CC:** DOM01.P0103(CouncilMail,LICATAN,NicastJ,STEINBP),d...

17. Rolande Chesebro

17.1—Comment acknowledged.

17.2—Comment acknowledged. Providing shuttle service for visitors to the park, (similar to the use of school buses) could help to reduce traffic generated by the proposal.

Letter 17

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Peter Marshall - arboretumdeis Page 1

**From:** "Rolande Chesebro (new)" <chesebro@w-link.net>  
**To:** DOM01.P0103(CouncilMail),DOM01.P0101(Moffice2),dom...  
**Date:** Mon, Jun 26, 2000 1:03 PM  
**Subject:** arboretumdeis

Dear Mr. Marshall,

17.1 I was dismayed when I read the deis and over and over again they deemed that there would be no significant impacts on the Arboretum with this proposed plan. I object to most of this plan on the grounds that it will change for ever a rare and precious piece of land. There can be no going back from the scale and type of projects being proposed here. The committee that cooked up this grandiose plan and seems to feel that the Park/Arboretum does not have a future without it fail to recognize that the A. has been the jewel of an historic plan for many years. Of course I am referring to the Olmstead Park and Boulevard Plan. Let their foresight and wisdom guide us as we seek to improve and gently adapt the A. By all means let's work on traffic problems and maintaining collections. Let's get more children into the parkso they can soak up what little bit of the wild natural worl remains. **WE DON'T NEED TO SHIP THEM TO THE ARBORETUM TO SIT IN ANOTHER CLASSROOM.** If the Arboretum staff really needs more buildings they should be encouraged to look at usingexisting facilitires in the dynamic adjoining neighborhoods. We don't need more paarking lots. The A. adjoins two

17.2 major bus routes (one on East Madison and several off of 23rd/24th Ave. E) and out of town visitors might be delighted to hop on a bus downtown and be within a nice walk of the park. What about a free shuttle van that could take people less able or willing to amke the short walk right into the heart of the park. There are so many more creative, clever and less costly ideas for solving problems the commitee purports this plan will solve. These other plans leave the main attraction in tact. What's world class about the Washington Park Arboretum is the combination of it's location in the heart of the city, the various habitats it encompasses, and it's state of semi wildness that provides a showcase for our Northwest native flora and fauna.

Please show some foresight and imagination and reject this destructive proposal.

Sincerely, Rolande Chesebro

**18. Faye Harwell,  
National Association  
for Olmsted Parks**

**18.1**—The final EIS has additional analysis of the Olmsted Brothers plan in the Historic and Cultural Resources section. Also see the response to comment A1.1.

Letter 18



## National Association for Olmsted Parks

19 Harrison Street, Framingham, MA 01702-2313  
508-820-7676 • fax 508-879-4888 • naop@resource-network.com

23 June 2000 Via fax 206.233.7023

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**Mr. Kenneth R. Bounds**  
Seattle Department of  
Parks and Recreation  
100 Dexter Avenue N  
Seattle

**Re: Washington Park Arboretum Master Plan DBS**

Dear Mr. Bounds:

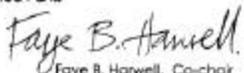
The National Association for Olmsted Parks understands from several of our Seattle members that there is concern about the Draft BS for the Washington Park Arboretum Master Plan as it relates to preservation of our national legacy of design by the Olmsted firm. The DBS does not appear to document the design intent of the Olmsted Brothers as they worked on plans for Washington Park, Lake Washington Boulevard and Washington Park Arboretum. These spaces were considered by the firm, not only as discrete elements, but also as integral parts of Seattle's comprehensive park and boulevard system.

In order for new plans to be properly evaluated, the research and evaluation of historic plans, drawings, and related correspondence need to be studied by someone familiar with the Olmsted legacy as well as with arboreta. The impact, or lack of impact, of the Master Plan on significant historic resources is difficult to determine without such careful evaluation.

The NAOP believes it is possible to respect the Olmsted design intent as well as to reflect contemporary needs and thinking about the mission and philosophy of arboreta in the twenty-first century. We encourage you to demonstrate the leadership to ensure that Seattle's valuable Olmsted legacy is preserved.

Sincerely,

The National Association for Olmsted Parks

  
 Faye B. Harwell, Co-chair

Mary Fox, Co-chair

cc: Peter Marshall, fax 206.233.3949

**19. Marina Skumanich,  
Seattle Audubon  
Society**

**19.1**—Comments acknowledged.

**19.2**—Potential cumulative impacts of the proposal include the possibility that continuous or long-term construction or habitat modification could deter some species from using the park for long periods. Some areas of the park might become active enough with human use that some species of birds and small mammals would avoid those areas for nesting or rearing. The possibility that either of these types of impacts would be significant is minimized, for the reasons described in the mitigation section for plants and animals.

Letter 19

Statement on the Draft EIS  
15 June 2000

Statement by: Marina Skumanich  
Seattle Audubon Society

I am here on behalf of the Seattle Audubon Society to share with you our overall perspective on the Draft EIS for the Washington Park Arboretum Plan. As you know, Seattle Audubon is committed to the protection and enjoyment of urban wildlife and natural land. In addition, we have long been supporters of the city's parks and open space. It is with these values in mind that we make our comments tonight.

**19.1** *at end* ~~Before turning specifically to the draft EIS~~—and although this is somewhat outside the scope of this EIS hearing – I must first express my ongoing disappointment regarding the ability of both the general ABGC planning process as well as the specific ABGC plan to create a clear, coherent, and broadly shared vision for the future of the Washington Park Arboretum. Some believe that a general consensus over the future direction of this beautiful public treasure is impossible. I disagree. As I have listened to the many voices who express different perspectives on the Park, I sense an underlying shared value of this resource that I believe could be nurtured into a explicitly shared vision. Regrettably, the process to date has not served to develop this vision. One can only hope that future consensus-building will be more successful.

~~Turning now to the draft EIS:~~ Seattle Audubon will be submitting more detailed comments in writing, but in the following comments I would like to briefly touch on several key issues that we believe are essential to preparing an EIS that will truly be useful in the overall Arboretum decision making process.

First, the draft EIS represents a very good characterization of the baseline resources of the Washington Park Arboretum. Less clear is whether the draft EIS provides a consistently useful analysis of impacts to these resources under the alternatives. In several instances, the analysis of impact (or lack of impact) appears to be rather superficial and unsubstantiated. It is not sufficient to declare that an alternative will or will not have a significant impact – the EIS must provide the reasoning behind that declaration.

**19.2** Second, as a related point, the Draft EIS consistently evaluates the environmental impacts of each plan element separately – examining buildings separately from parking separately from landscape features, and so forth. This is useful but incomplete. Particularly given the scope of the changes envisioned in the plan, the EIS must also evaluate the plan as a whole – for it is only in the context of the whole plan that environmental impacts are relevant. For example, in the section on Impacts to Plants and Animals, while impacts relative to individual plan elements are described, nowhere is the cumulative effect of these impacts considered. Clearly, the EIS must address this issue.

19.3—See the response to comment 4.24.

19.4—The no-action alternative includes continued maintenance and some renovation of the arboretum, with only a limited number of new exhibits.

19.5—Comments acknowledged.

(Letter 19)

19.3 Third, the evaluation of impacts must consider both short-term and long-term impacts. The fact that the plan would be implemented over several years may indeed insure – as stated on page 107 – that impacts “occurring at any one time would be limited, with change occurring at a gradual pace.” However, regardless of how limited and gradual, short-term impacts have the potential to accumulate to the point of leaving lasting long-term damage. This possibility needs to be explicitly addressed by the EIS.

19.4 Fourth, Seattle Audubon submits that the landscape changes (i.e., the exhibits) proposed by the ABGC plan are extensive, and depending upon how these changes are implemented, they have the potential to radically affect various environmental attributes, including particularly urban habitat and water resources. Given the significance of this plan element, it is essential that the EIS provide one or more alternatives to the ABGC plan relative to landscape features that represent a reduced scope; that is, alternatives with more modest changes in plant exhibits. For example, one alternative might address adequate renovation of existing collections without necessarily including new exhibits. Providing a range of alternatives for this important plan element will directly benefit the decisionmaking process.

19.5 Finally, Seattle Audubon must repeat our position on the siting of new buildings within the Washington Park Arboretum. Given the critical need for open space within our community, Seattle Audubon strongly believes that proposals to replace open space with buildings and impervious surfaces should be included in the master plan only with clear and compelling justification, and only after other alternatives have been explored and deemed infeasible. The draft EIS as written does not give sufficient attention to the environmental and community values that will be adversely affected by new buildings sited with the Arboretum, particularly the proposed “Madrona Terrace”.

The Seattle Audubon Society looks forward to working with the City of Seattle Parks Department and other participants to ensure the ongoing preservation of our shared Washington Park Arboretum.

Thank you for your consideration.

Marina Skumanich  
[sku@jps.net](mailto:sku@jps.net)  
206-527-3578  
3825 ne 87<sup>th</sup> Street  
Seattle, WA 98115

20. Richard Pulkrabek,  
Japanese Garden  
Advisory Council

Letter 20

**Japanese Garden Advisory Council**

100 Dexter Avenue North  
Seattle, Washington 98109-5199

Chair  
Carolann Fried  
Members  
John Bisbee  
Julie Coryell  
Iain Robertson  
Akira Takeda  
Ed Widmayer  
Richard Pulkrabek  
Carol Simons  
Elizabeth Moses

June 23, 2000

Peter Marshall, Park Planner  
Ken Bounds, Superintendent  
Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation  
800 Maynard Avenue South  
Seattle, Washington 98134

Dear Mr. Marshall and Mr. Bounds:

Thank you for this opportunity to respond to the Washington Park Arboretum Master Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The members of the Japanese Garden Advisory Council have reviewed the Draft EIS and its assessment of the impacts of the proposed Master Plan, and the alternatives. Although the Draft EIS presents the changes to the Washington Park Arboretum as they affect the Japanese Garden, there are areas of concern that require comment and clarification on our part and, we hope, further consideration on your part before the Draft EIS is put in final form.

Of primary importance to us is the characterization of the two structures proposed for the Japanese Garden, the Pavilion at the north end of the pond, and the Gatehouse at the entry, and the stated impacts of those structures.

**20.1**—Thank you for the additional historical information. The pavilion, although shown on the original 1959 plan for the Japanese garden, is not shown on the 1978 arboretum master plan update. The only new structure shown at the Japanese garden in the 1978 plan is a restroom addition. Accordingly, the no-action alternative in the EIS does not include the pavilion. The proposed plan includes the pavilion as a new building, because it is neither existing nor included in the previous master plan.

**20.2**—The size noted includes only the one permanent structure. A footnote has been added to the chart for clarification.

**20.3**—The text was intended to describe the range of responses expected from visitors. The text has been revised to note that replacement of the portable toilet structures with permanent structures would probably be appreciated by most visitors.

(Letter 20)

The Pavilion:

**20.1** | The original conception of the Japanese Garden we see today, the original plans from the 1960's, included a Pavilion as a focal point at the north end of the Garden. As a metaphor, it represents the "house" for which this style of garden would have been created. It is, therefore, an integral part of the overall design, providing the critical viewpoint from which the full beauty of the Garden is revealed. However, in the early 1960's when the Garden was created, funds were insufficient to complete the whole design and construction of the Pavilion was deferred.

In the current Master Plan, the Pavilion is presented as a "new" structure, but in fact it was always intended as a part of the Japanese Garden, even under the original 1978 Master Plan. Realization of the Pavilion is essential to completion of the design of the Japanese Garden as it was envisioned forty years ago. This can not be stressed enough.

The Gatehouse Entry:

**20.2** | Secondly, the proposed Gatehouse: the Draft EIS Summary has the Gatehouse expanding from 50 SF to 1700 SF. This "dramatic" expansion is misleading, in that it undervalues the spatial functions of the existing entry. Even though the current assemblage of four structures (the ticket booth, tool shed, and two Porta-Potties) is woefully inadequate, the combined circulation between these structures, together with the group assembly space at the entrance to the Garden, in actuality far exceeds the 50 SF figure.

**20.3** | Further, the Draft EIS states that replacing the existing Gatehouse may detract from the simplicity and purity of the existing entry. On the contrary, there is nothing particularly authentic about the entry as it stands. In fact, what we have is in no way appropriate in either scale, design or function as an entrance to a Japanese garden. The existing entry has been cobbled together over the years out of necessity; for example, the ticket booth was fashioned out of a shed discarded from the Seattle Center in the 1980's. The Porta-Potties, a more recent addition, are an embarrassment at best. What is needed is a new entry that truly represents the traditions of the Japanese garden and incorporates modern conveniences appropriate for a garden visited by thousands every year.

**20.4**—Thank you for your comment on the importance of this concept in the Japanese garden. The proposed master plan has an explicit goal of improving the "borrowed landscape" views from the Japanese garden. As well as can be assessed at this time, no new structures other than those proposed for the Japanese garden would be visible from the Japanese garden. The Madrona Terrace structure, as shown in the cross-section Figure 21, would not be visible because of mature vegetation on the hillside between it and the Japanese garden. The structure depicted in the cross-section is larger than the proposed shelter included in the proposed master plan in the final EIS. However, neither the design of the structures, the planting designs, nor the timing has been determined at this time. Development near the Japanese garden would require further review to control these impacts.

**20.5**—Comment acknowledged.

**20.6**—Comment acknowledged.

**20.7**—The plan includes an ADA-accessible path, which would in concept allow pedestrians to walk from one end of the park to the other on the west side of the boulevard. Although the trail is shown on the west side of the Japanese garden in the master plan drawing, the trail could be sited on the east side, adjacent to the boulevard, or sited and designed to avoid impacts on the Japanese garden.

**20.8**—Comment acknowledged.

(Letter 20)

**Borrowed Scenery:**

**20.4** | There are impacts outside the Garden we would like to comment on as well. In the Master Plan, the view of the Madrona Terrace development from the Japanese Garden must respect the need for maintaining the "borrowed scenery", a concept central to any Japanese garden design. Although the language of the Draft EIS does mention maintaining a woodland buffer, it does not adequately address the importance of this concept for the Japanese Garden.

**Alternative Plan:**

**20.5** | Should the alternative plan with the educational building located near the entrance to the Japanese Garden be adopted, there would be positive impacts for the program functions of the Japanese Garden. For example, the building and its multi-use space could be used to host events in conjunction with the Japanese Garden, such as music, dance, flower arranging, and the like. Such events would help to more fully integrate the Japanese Garden with the cultural life of the city, and the many groups and organizations interested in Asian arts.

**Pedestrian Overpass/Traffic Calming:**

**20.6** | As regards installation of any pedestrian overpasses, we would favor locations south of the Garden. We feel that any location north of the Garden would have a negative impact on the visitor's experience. We support any efforts to improve safety and reduce traffic along Lake Washington Boulevard, such as crosswalks, stoplights, etc. Traffic calming in any form would have a positive impact on visitors to the Garden in reducing noise, and minimizing visual distractions.

**Paths:**

**20.7** | Paths around the perimeter of the Japanese Garden are also a concern, in that a considerable amount of fencing and screening would be required to mitigate the impact of noise and visual distractions on the experience of viewing the Garden.

**Parking Facilities:**

**20.8** | The redesign of the south parking lot and the removal of the turn-in off Lake Washington Boulevard by the entrance to the Japanese Garden would have a very positive impact on the experience of visitors to the Garden.

(Letter 20)

20.8 | By extending the distance from the parking lot to the front entry, and  
conti. | converting the the space from asphalt to landscaping , the visitor would  
| be able to begin the transition to a contemplative state of mind that  
| typifies the experience of visiting the Japanese Garden.

Thank you for taking these comments into consideration.

Sincerely,



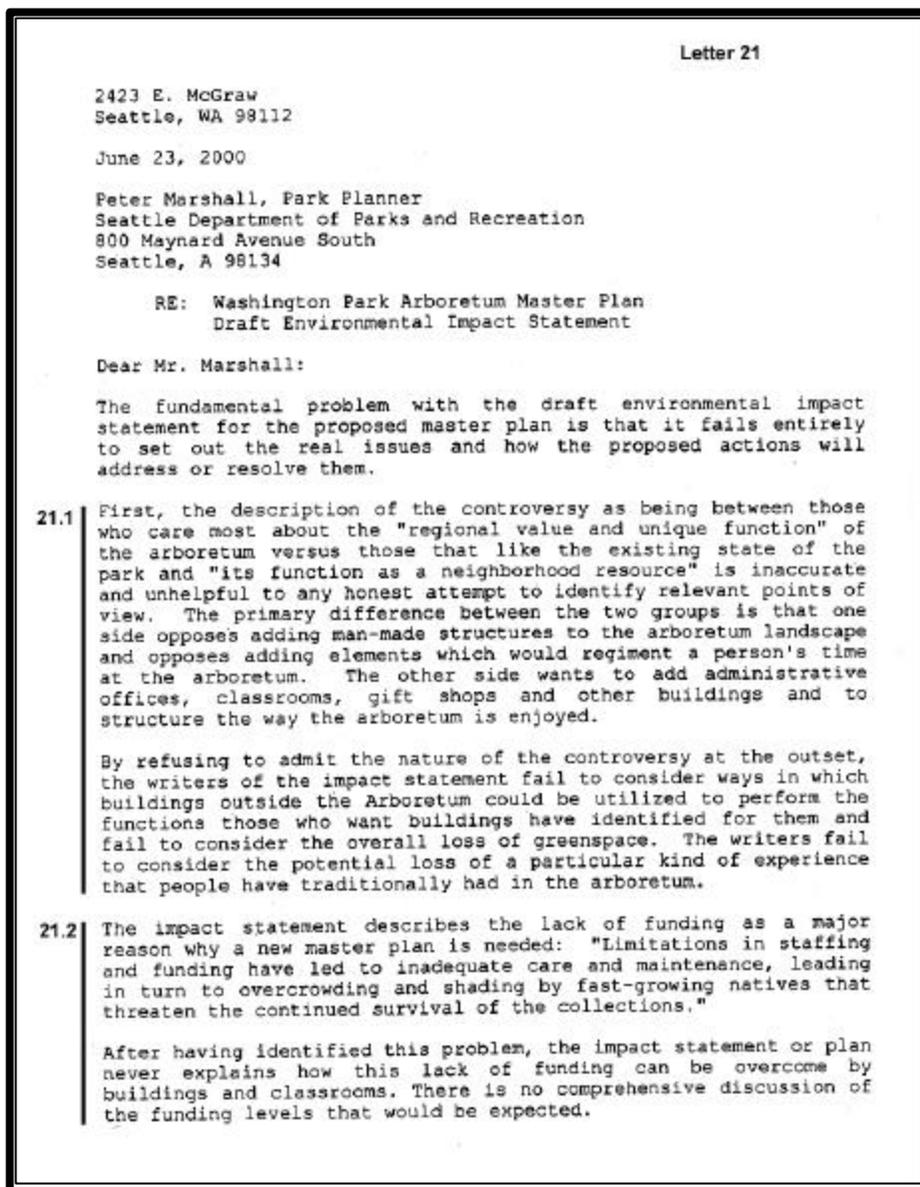
Richard Pulkrabek  
Co-Chairman, Planning Subcommittee  
Japanese Garden Advisory Council

cc: Carolann Fried  
John Bisbee  
Stephanie Jones

**21. Rita Griffith**

**21.1**—Please see the revised text in the Major Conclusions, Areas of Controversy, and Issues to Be Resolved section of the final EIS.

**21.2**—The direct financial costs of the proposal are discussed in a separate document, *Financial Aspects of the Proposed Arboretum Master Plan*, which is available from the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and online at the city's web site: <http://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/parks/arboretum/ARBOFiscal512.doc>. Also see the response to comment 4.4.



21.3—By ambiance, the comments may refer to aesthetic impacts, which are discussed in comment 1.3 and in the revised text.

(Letter 21)

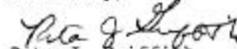
21.2 | A candid impact statement that sought to resolve the issue of the  
conti. | lack of funding would admit that the elements of this plan which  
are most controversial are there as a means of earning money --  
as a means of getting funds from the public schools, visitors or  
members of private foundations. People could then consider and  
comment on the financial validity of these plans and how much they  
might be willing to accept in order to have better maintenance and  
enhanced collections in the arboretum. Discussion of how these  
same funding sources or others might be attracted with fewer  
drawbacks could be considered.

Further, without such candor, it is not possible to determine how  
much, if any, of the plan we could realistically expect to be  
implemented if it is adopted.

21.3 | While the impact statement appears to be comprehensive in its  
analysis of various impacts -- water, wildlife, etc. -- it fails  
to come to terms with what is really at stake for the people who  
are most concerned about the plan. The problem is that the plan  
could change the arboretum in a basic way and change the way in  
which people experience being there. The plan itself and the  
impact statement's discussion of it merely forestall consideration  
of the issues that may ultimately determine whether the plan will  
either be adopted or implemented, including the financial issues.

The final impact statement should look at issues with more candor  
and recognize that a basic change in the ambiance and use of the  
arboretum is proposed. This would likely bring about a greater  
willingness of all parties to take part in the consideration of  
the future of the arboretum.

Sincerely,

  
Rita J. Griffith

**22. Dandy Porter**

**22.1**—Comment acknowledged.

**22.2**—The master plan proposes establishing a considerable portion of the arboretum in native plantings for precisely the ecological purposes you cite. Using plants from within the northwest region but outside lowland Puget Sound could have impacts similar to the concept proposed in the master plan, which is to use plants that are adapted to similar climates in different parts of the world. Using exclusively native plants, however, would not meet the goal for which the arboretum was originally established. That scheme therefore has not been added as an alternative.

**22.3**—See the response to comment 2.4.

Letter 22

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Peter Marshall - Arboretum
Page 1

**From:** <cliftonporter@seanet.com>  
**To:** dom03.p0303(MARSHAP)  
**Date:** Mon, Jun 26, 2000 5:18 AM  
**Subject:** Arboretum

June 26, 2000

Dear Peter Marshall, City Council Member, and Mayor,

**22.1** I am writing to express my opposition to the recently proposed Master Plan for the Washington Park Arboretum. The claim is that this plan will create a "world class arboretum" and that this is in the best interests of Seattle. The increased number of exotic plants, of buildings and of parking lots might serve the exotic plant collection of the University of Washington, but they will have an adverse impact on the lives of the people of Seattle and of the region. The concept is outdated—that is, the ownership of exotic plants without regard to the animal, insect, other flora, or human web of interdependency which they are part of. In the many meetings where citizens have been urged to offer their input, many thoughtful comments have been made. Here is another vision that seems to me to be coming out of these efforts to share ideas.

**22.2** How about a plant collection which emphasizes native plants of our region and state and attempts to build the ecosystems of which they are a part? There are many native plants and animals, such as song birds which are threatened or have been pushed out by the heavy urbanization of Seattle. Why not aim at increasing or sustaining the indigenous biodiversity of this area in the Washington Park Arboretum? This would be a superb opportunity for the University to do research and to collaborate with nurseries, landscapers, gardeners and citizens in contributing to the future healthy environment and livability of the city of Seattle. The educational focus that the University hopes to build would make sense. Children will visit the park to experience it in many ways and they will take home ideas and understanding which they can carry out in their own back yards. To make of the Washington Park Arboretum, which is in the heart of urban Seattle, a place where the biodiversity of the region is brought back and sustained through plantings, research, and education of our children, now that's a World Class vision!

**22.3** If the educational purposes of the Washington Park Arboretum need buildings then those buildings must not be in the park (in keeping with the city ordinance). Any new buildings or parking lots in the park will only negatively impact the quality of life in our dense urban environment, because there will be diminished space for plants, diminished habitat, and increased air and sound pollution from bus and car exhaust and engine and tire noise.

We have an opportunity to exert leadership for other urban areas all over the world by the choices we make for the Washington Park Arboretum. Act wisely!

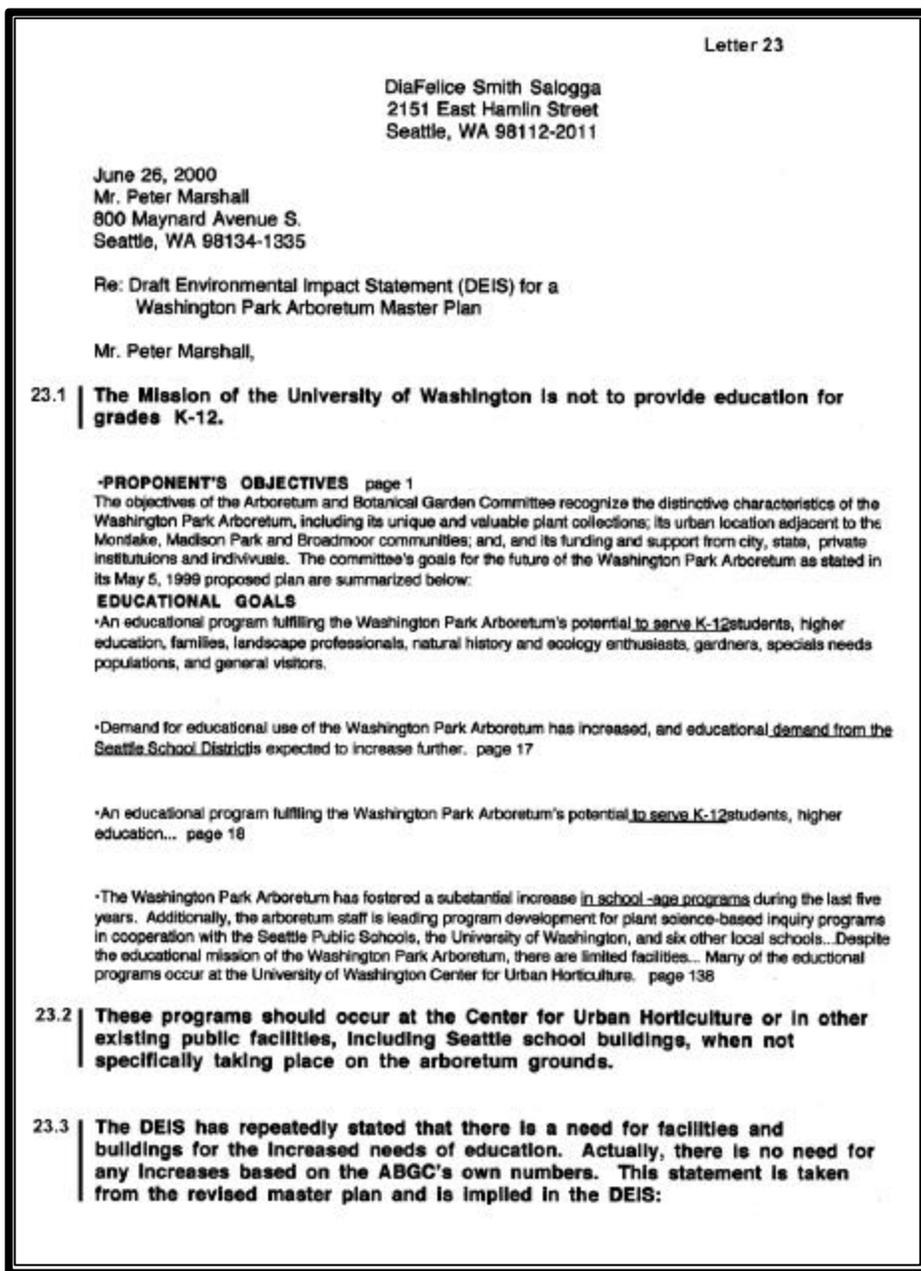
Sincerely, Dandy Porter  
 2440 E. Aloha  
 Seattle, WA 98112

**23. DiaFelice Smith Salogga**

**23.1**—The University of Washington has in recent years assumed a greater role in K-12 education. For example, the university and partners established the K-12 Leadership Institute in February 2000. Several university departments have been engaged in partnerships with K-12 programs for several years, helping to improve teaching methods. The university currently helps schools to meet the state's essential academic learning requirements through life sciences units taught at the arboretum. Coordination of environmental education with the Seattle School District and other public agencies is one of the Department of Parks and Recreation's primary roles and responsibilities identified in the *Parks and Recreation Plan 2000*. Although the arboretum is not yet listed among the facilities where the *Parks and Recreation Plan 2000* calls for providing support to school programs, the Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee (ABGC) is proposing that the arboretum expand its efforts in that area.

**23.2**—Comment acknowledged.

**23.3**—The University has been working with Seattle School District and Alliance for Education to establish program goals. New figures are provided in the FEIS. See the response to comment 2.1. See the Public Services and Utilities section and Appendix D of the final EIS for clarification of the expected number of student visits.



(Letter 23)

23.3  
conti.

"K-12 school programs served approximately 2,500 students in 1996. The demand and potential are much greater, however. For instance, the Seattle School District will recommend soon, and finance through the Alliance for Education, one field-trip experience for each grade. When this occurs, the Arboretum will serve approximately 6,000 Seattle public school students per year. Given the uniqueness of the Arboretum as an educational resource in western Washington, and the performance of similar public gardens in other metropolitan areas, the Arboretum should serve, overall, at least 10,000-15,000 K-12 students and youth per year."

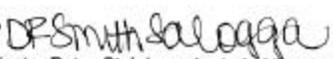
After contacting Seattle Public Schools technical assistance, I reached Mr. Michael Conway at student information service center, he said he had not heard of such a program (but did offer that the logistics for buses alone was tremendous,) and suggested I contact Ms Sue Byers, special programs Seattle Public Schools. We discussed special programs and the Alliance for Education. She said she would contact Craig McCowen, Alliance for Education, and Jackie Ko and would call back.

Ms. Jackie Ko, Communications Director, Alliance for Education, telephoned and said she had spoken with Julie DeBar, Education Coordinator for the Arboretum and advised them to remove the incorrect written material. She said they would not like to be incorrectly referred to, particularly where enlargement of facilities was being decided. There is hope of a K-5 program that would involve 1200 children from 20 schools. Ms DeBar accepted the corrected figure Ms Ko gave her, I was told.

This is a ten to twelve fold misrepresentation of the true figure. These figures were certainly well positioned as justification for tremendous increases in square foot ages needed in the name of Education. This also appears to be an intentional deception to show a "much needed" use. The ABGC's quoted figures of 2500 students is more accurately 1200 students, a decrease, meaning that there are more than adequate existing facilities.

The DEIS needs to check and recheck the numbers brandished about by the ABGC in all categories of development.

As a horticulturist and an educator , I have tried to keep my comments directed to the educational aspects of the proposed plan. One of the best things we can do is to teach our children to appreciate, to understand, and to respect plant life through educational programs. We need to provide and protect this living laboratory and classroom where scientists and students can study and learn. We do not need more buildings in our plant museum to teach the love and respect for our environment. We need to use the buildings that exist more efficiently. New planning for growth and/or physical construction should occur outside of the Washington Park Arboretum.

Sincerely,   
cc: Nick Licata, Peter Steinbrueck, Judy Nicastro

**24. Jan (Joan M.) Pirzio-Biroli**

**24.1**—Comment acknowledged.

**24.2**—The proposed master plan now includes only a 300-square-foot shelter at Madrona Terrace, with a 30-stall parking lot. Underground parking is not considered feasible because of the high cost of construction, and it also raises safety issues. If underground parking were developed in the park, it could have less visual impact in the long run than would surface parking, although short-term construction impacts would be greater, primarily because construction would take longer. Other impacts of underground parking would be similar to a surface lot of the same size.

**24.3**—To clarify, the proposed roundabout and other changes to Lake Washington Boulevard are not anticipated to reduce the number of travelers on that route, but are intended to reduce congestion and conflicts with pedestrians. The master plan could be made more specific to preclude impacts on certain views or plantings.

**24.4**—Comment acknowledged.

**24.5**—The proposed plan is conceptual. If included in the final master plan, the exact location of the relocated Arboretum Drive would be determined at the design stage of implementation. The proposed plan is favored by the ABGC because it would enhance the experience of the visitor on foot by removing the road, although

it is acknowledged that the view from the road would be altered.

Letter 24

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Marshall - comments on arboretum master plan
Page 1

**From:** <Ectypos@aol.com>  
**To:** dom03.p0303(MARSHAP)  
**Date:** Sun, Jun 25, 2000 8:57 PM  
**Subject:** comments on arboretum master plan

June 25, 2000  
 From Jan (Joan M.) Pirzio-Biroli

Peter Marshall  
 Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation  
 800 Maynard Avenue South  
 Seattle, WA 98134  
 peter.marshall@ci.seattle.wa.us

As a retired staff member of the Washington Park Arboretum as well as someone who has enjoyed for more than 40 years the peace it offers to visitors as well as the inspiration its collections give to plant lovers, I believe that I can present a rounded evaluation of the proposed master plan

The following are thoughts that I feel strongly about on aspects of the plan. I have starred the comments that are most important to me.

Buildings and outdoor shelters:

**24.1** | Since the present availability of space for administrative personnel, educational activities and grounds management is woefully inadequate, there is no question that demands will grow over the decades. However, I would hope that some of this need can be fulfilled by the use of MOHAI or some other off site facility if such becomes available. There would certainly be suitable additional space at the north end of the Arboretum, and at the south end of the Japanese Garden. The pavilions etc. would be greatly enjoyed by the public.

**24.2** | \*However, I believe that the 5000 foot facility near the south end would create an excessively heavy impact on the collections. A smaller one would be desirable and should better be placed in such a way as to be less damaging to the camellia and holly collections, as well as the native plant material in Madrona Terrace. Also, is underground parking near that facility a possibility?

Roadways:

**24.3** | The roundabout and Lake Washington Boulevard improvements seem to make very good sense. Anything that can reduce the traffic on the boulevard would be desirable.

**24.4** | \*The closing of Arboretum Drive to through traffic seems to have been modified, but I would hope that use of it by private vehicles would be permitted since it is for many people a particularly enjoyable and relaxing experience. As long as traffic is controlled (by speed bumps, for example), there is no reason why its use by the public impacts the well being of the Arboretum. And it certainly makes the collections more available to visitors.

**24.5** | As for the relocation of Arboretum Drive at the north end, I would suggest that this begin at the north entrance to Woodland Garden, rather than farther south. The reason for this is that the present view of that planting as seen from the south, as created by the Olmsted plan, is very beautiful and should be kept available to visitors.

Parking facilities:

**24.6** | Since parking at the north end is at present woefully inadequate,

24.6—Comments  
acknowledged.

(Letter 24)

Pete Marshall - comments on arboretum master plan

Page 2

24.6 obviously it must be expanded. (I would hope, however, that some method  
conti. could be used to prevent pre-game parking on football days.)

\*Obviously if there is to be a visitor facility at the south end, there  
must be parking available for its use. However, the careful location of this  
and control of its size is imperative in order to avoid impact on the  
collections.

\*Retention of parking lots for visitor use along Arboretum Drive is  
desirable, and I agree that they do not have to be as large as they are at  
present, as long as their use can be controlled in some manner.

Elements on Landscape & Safety Features, as well as Pedestrian & Bicycle  
Circulation, all seem to make very good sense.

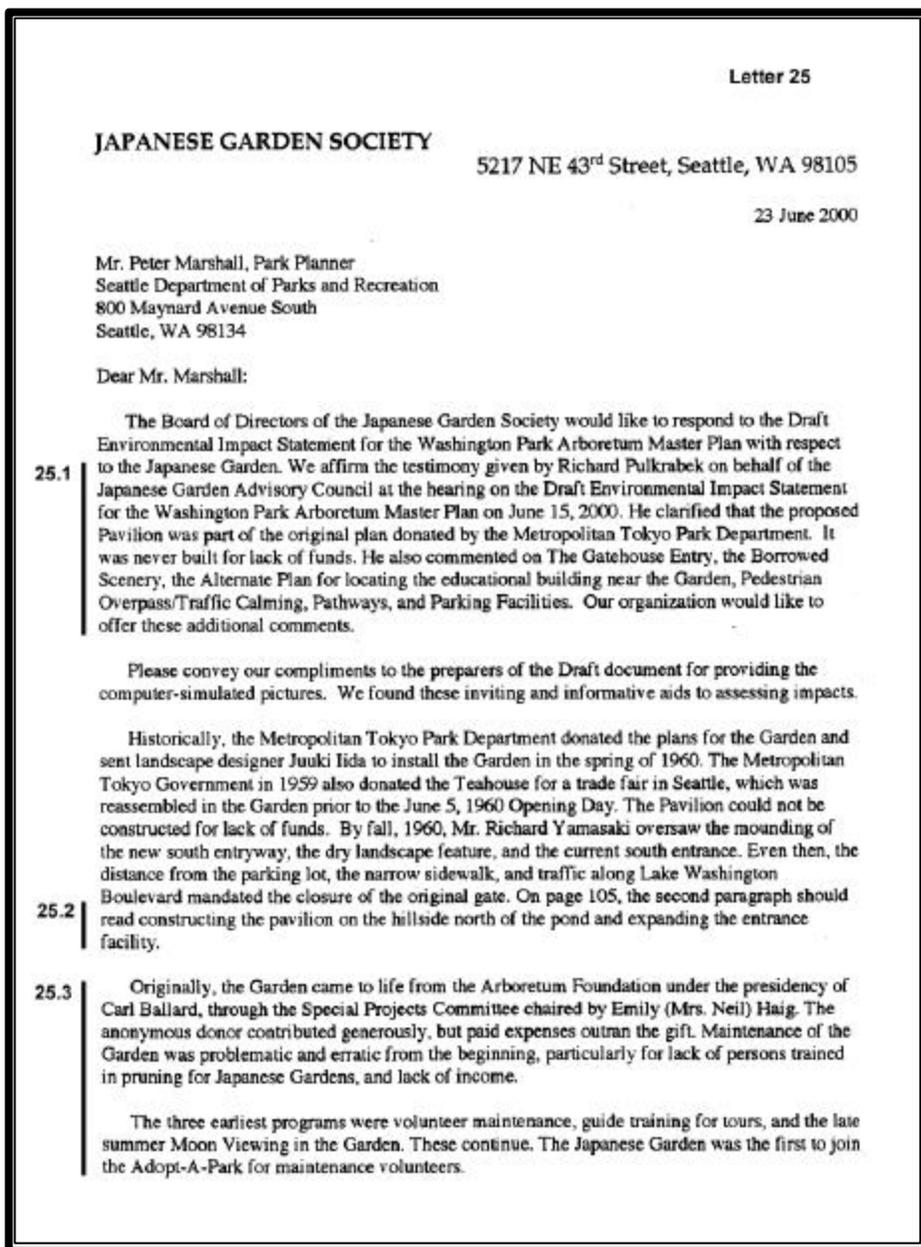
Jan (Joan M.) Pirzio-Biroli

**25. Julie E. Coryell,  
Japanese Garden  
Society**

**25.1**—Please see the responses to comment letter 20.

**25.2**—The text has been corrected to state: "These include expanding the entrance facility and constructing the Japanese garden pavilion on the hillside north of the pond..."

**25.3**—Thank you for the historical information on the Japanese garden. It is anticipated that the cultural education programs at the Japanese garden would continue to grow under the proposed master plan. Pedestrian-activated signals are expected to have a modest effect on traffic speeds on Lake Washington Boulevard East, which could reduce impacts on the Japanese garden programs somewhat.



25.4—Thank you. The animal list has been amended to include these species.

(Letter 25)

Letter to Peter Marshall Re: Seattle DOPAR Draft EIS for WPA

Page Two

25.3 | Guide training is offered as a joint effort between Arboretum Foundation Unit #86 and the  
conti. | City Department of Parks and Recreation. Approximately 50 guides annually lead singly and in-  
groups about 400 tours, primarily between April and October. Tour fees are credited to the  
Japanese Garden Advisory Council. Many tours are school groups; others are horticultural or  
cultural groups. Currently, Moon Viewing is a biennial event, organized by the Society. For the  
last five years, the Society has offered a Children's Day celebration on the first Sunday afternoon  
in May. The Fortieth Anniversary has expanded programs in the Garden and Graham Visitors  
Center. Volunteers have initiated all the programs.

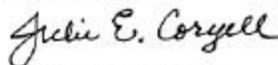
Noise from the traffic and airplanes overhead is a persistent intrusion to conversation and  
quiet in the Garden. Traffic calming would be highly desirable. The Draft EIS cites this problem  
for Arboretum Guides; it is acute given the smaller area of the Garden and close proximity to  
Lake Washington Boulevard, particularly on the east side (woodland) and on overcast days.

25.4 | Please add two animals to the Plants and Animals chapter which inhabit the Japanese Garden  
p.99-102: Five or six Red-eared Slider turtles live in the pond: *Trachemys scripta elegans*. The  
carp, *Cyprinus carpio*, are a fancy variety, called in Japanese *nishikigoi*, or brocade carp bred for  
dramatic coloration. Because of the heron, only foot-long individuals tend to survive. A  
bacterial infection killed about a quarter of the population this spring, which has highlighted the  
scarcity of Park Department Resources to identify illnesses and treat the fish. Aesthetically, they  
are a great attraction.

Finally, if you would add the Japanese Garden Advisory Council, (c/o Richard Pulkrabek,  
5029 38<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98105) and the Japanese Garden Society to your distribution  
list, we would be grateful.

We very much appreciate your effort to cast your net widely for comments. If we can be of  
any further assistance, please call, write, or email.

Sincerely yours,



Julie E. Coryell, President  
206 523-2863 jcoryell@nwlink.com

(Letter 25)

Richard Pulkrabek, 6/15/00 5:11 PM -0700, JGAC Response to Draft EIS 6/2000

1

X-From : rpulkrabek@earthlink.net Thu Jun 15 17:10:42 2000  
Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 17:11:11 -0700  
From: Richard Pulkrabek <rpulkrabek@earthlink.net>  
To: kobofseanet.com, jccoryell@nwlink.com, edwidmayer@juno.com,  
stephanie.jones@ci.seattle.wa.us  
Subject: JGAC Response to Draft EIS 6/2000

Comment for Draft EIS Hearing to be read out as follows (revised after member input on 6/15/00)

Thank you for giving me this opportunity. My name is Richard Pulkrabek. I am a resident of Seattle and I live near University Village. I am also a member of the Japanese Garden Advisory Council and it is on behalf of the Advisory Council and the Japanese Garden that I speak tonight.

We have reviewed the Draft EIS and its assessment of the impacts of the proposed Master Plan, and the alternatives. Although the Draft EIS presents the changes to the Washington Park Arboretum as they affect the Japanese Garden, there are areas of concern that require comment and clarification on our part and, we hope, further consideration on your part before the draft EIS is put into final form.

Of primary importance to us is the characterization of the two structures proposed for the Japanese Garden, the Pavilion at the north end of the pond, and the Gatehouse at the entry, and the stated impacts of those structures.

#### The Pavilion:

The original conception of the Japanese Garden we see today, the original plans from the 1960's, included a Pavilion as a focal point at the north end of the Garden. As a metaphor, it represents the "house" for which this style of garden would have been created. It is, therefore, an integral part of the overall design, providing the critical viewpoint from which the full beauty of the Garden can be experienced. However, in the the early 1960's, when the Garden was created, there was not enough money to complete the whole design, so construction of the Pavilion was deferred.

In the current Master Plan, the Pavilion is presented as a "new" structure, but in fact it was always intended as a part of the Japanese Garden, even under the original 1978 Master Plan. Realization of the Pavilion is essential to completion of the design of the Japanese Garden as it was envisioned forty years ago. This can not be stressed enough.

#### The Gatehouse Entry:

Secondly, the proposed Gatehouse: the Draft EIS Summary has the Gatehouse expanding from 50 SF to 1700 SF. This "dramatic" expansion is misleading, in that it undervalues the spatial functions of the existing entry. Even though the current assemblage of four structures (the ticket booth, tool shed, and two Porta-Potties) is woefully inadequate, the combined circulation between these structures, together with the group assembly space at the entrance to the Garden in actuality far exceeds the 50 SF figure.

Further, the Draft EIS states that replacing the existing Gatehouse may detract from the "simplicity and purity" of the entry (ed.-not sure of exact wording here). On the contrary, there is really nothing particularly authentic about the entry as it stands. In fact, what we have is in no way appropriate in either scale, design or function as an entrance to a Japanese garden. The existing entry has been cobbled together over the years out of necessity; for example, the ticket booth was fashioned out of a shed discarded from the Seattle Center in the 1980's. The Porta-Potties, a more recent addition are, to put it mildly, an embarrassment for a

Printed for Julie Coryell <jcoryell@nwlink.com>

1

(Letter 25)

Richard Pulkrabek, 6/15/00 5:11 PM -0700, JGAC Response to Draft EIS 6/2000

2

garden of this stature. What is needed is a new entry that truly represents the traditions of the Japanese Garden and incorporates modern conveniences appropriate for a garden visited by thousands every year.

#### Borrowed Scenery:

There are impacts outside the Garden we would like to comment on as well. Should the proposed Master Plan be adopted, the view of the Madrona Terrace development from the Japanese Garden must respect the need for maintaining the "borrowed scenery", a concept central to any Japanese garden design. The language in the Draft EIS, though it does mention maintaining a woodland buffer, does not adequately address the importance of this concept for the Japanese Garden.

#### Alternate Plan:

Should the alternative plan with the educational building located near the entrance to the Japanese Garden be adopted, it would have a positive impact on the program functions of the Japanese Garden. This building and its multi-use space could be used to host events in conjunction with the Japanese Garden such as music, dance, flower arranging, and so on. This would help to more fully integrate the Japanese Garden with the cultural life of the city and the many groups and organizations interested in Asian arts.

#### Pedestrian Overpass/Traffic Calming:

As regards installation of any pedestrian overpasses, we would favor locations south of the Garden. We feel that any location north of the Garden would have a negative impact on the visitor's experience. We support any efforts to improve safety and reduce traffic along Lake Washington Boulevard, such as crosswalks, stoplights, etc. Traffic calming in any form would have a positive impact on visitors to the Garden in reducing noise, and minimizing distractions.

#### Pathways:

Pathways around the perimeter the Japanese Garden are also a concern, in that a considerable amount of fencing and plant screening would be required to mitigate the impact of noise and visual distractions on the experience of viewing the Garden.

#### Parking Facilities:

The redesign of the south parking lot and the removal of the turn-in off Lake Washington Boulevard by the entrance to the Japanese Garden would have a very positive impact on the experience of visitors to the Garden. By extending the distance from the parking lot to the front entry, and converting that space from asphalt to landscaping, the visitor would be able to begin the transition to a contemplative state of mind that typifies the experience of visiting the Japanese Garden.

This concludes my remarks. I would like to thank you for taking these comments into consideration. We have additional comments to make to ensure an accurate record, but these we will submit in letter form by the end of the comment period. Thank you.

Printed for Julie Coryell <jcoryell@nwlink.com>

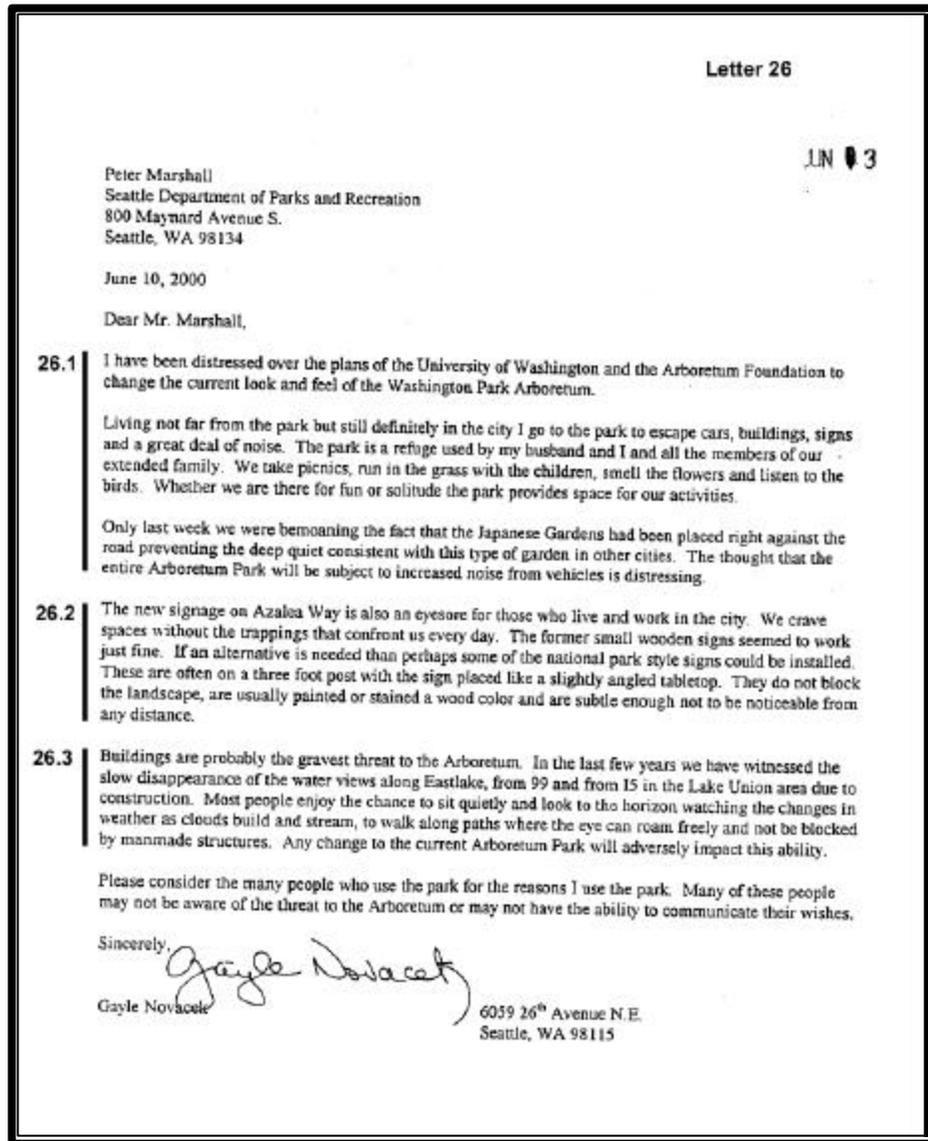
2

26. Gayle Novacek

26.1—Comments acknowledged.

26.2—See the response to comment 4.3. Thank you for the suggestion of alternative signage types.

26.3—See the response to comment 1.3.

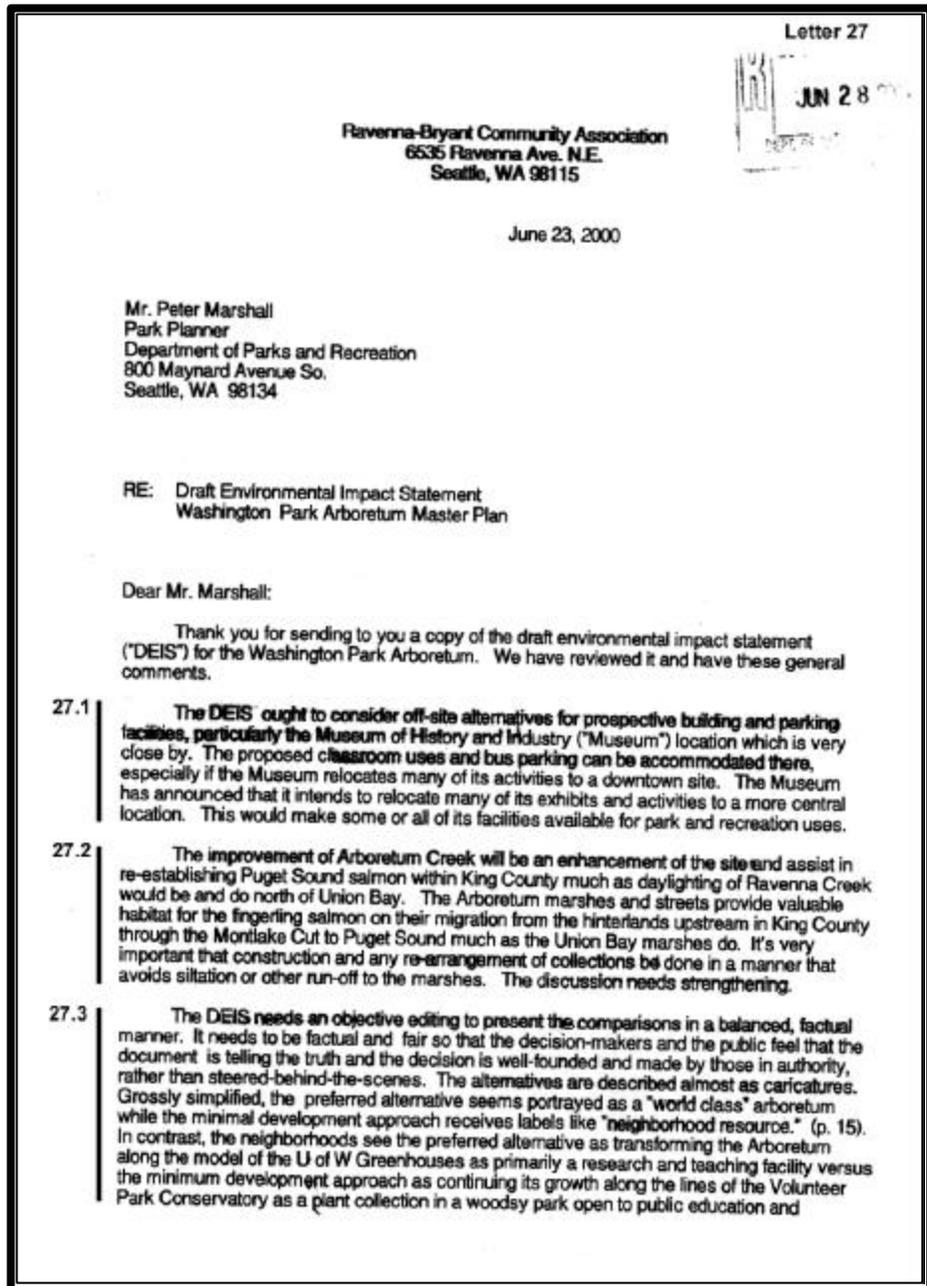


27. Patricia Barber,  
Ravenna-Bryant  
Community  
Association

27.1—Please see the response to comment 9.4.

27.2—See the response to comment 3.16. City regulations require detailed plans to control erosion and siltation during construction. Long-term siltation issues would be addressed at the design stage, if this element is included in the master plan.

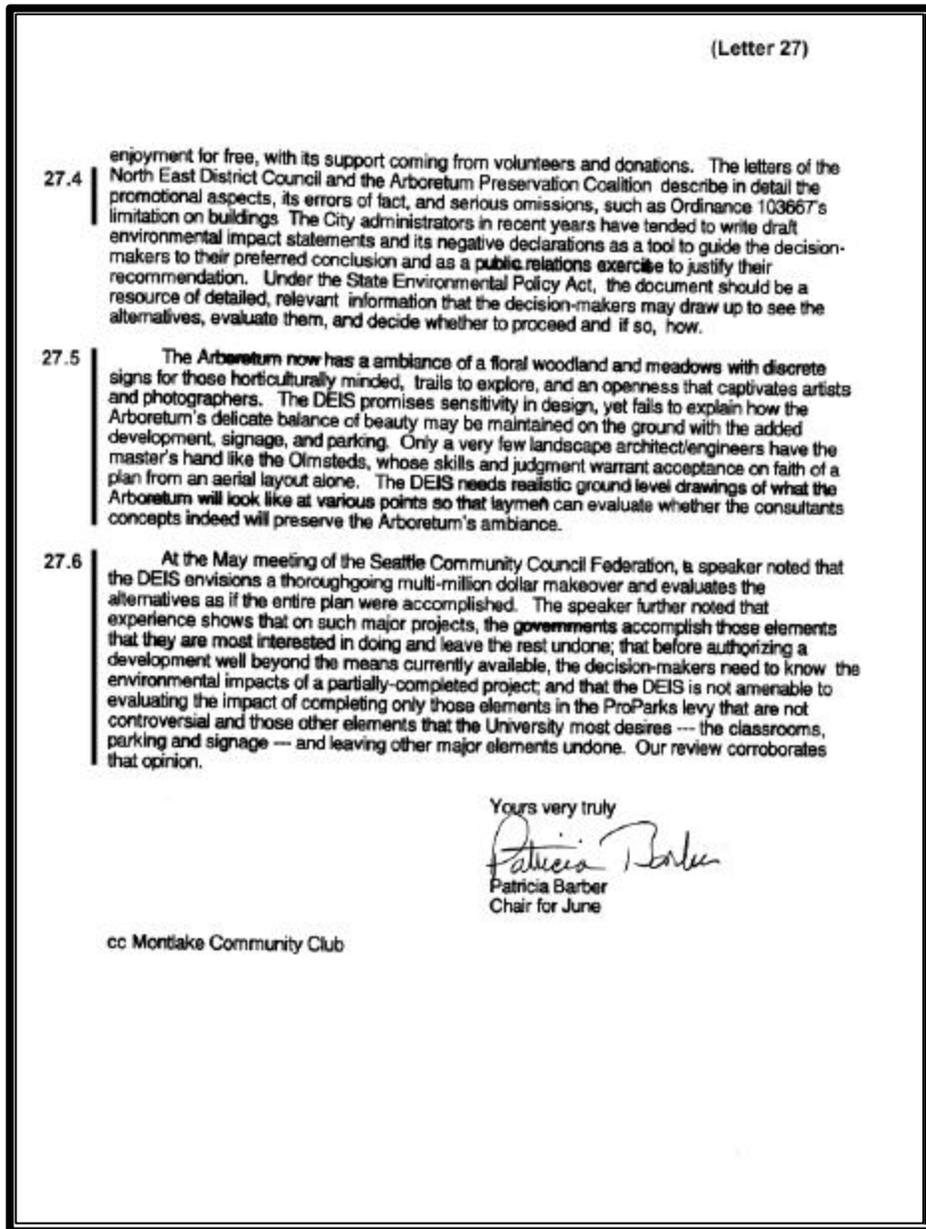
27.3—See revised text in the final EIS.



27.4—See the responses to comment letter 13.

27.5—Some additional visual assessment of the proposal has been included in the final EIS Aesthetics section. Because the proposal is programmatic, detailed designs are not available. The photo-simulations in the EIS provide an image of the conceptual approach that the proposal intends. Individual projects under the proposed master plan would require additional analysis at the design stage.

27.6—See the response to comment 4.1. The impacts of each plan element are individually described in the EIS so that an assessment can be made of the impacts at the time each element goes forward. Many elements would require additional environmental review if implemented, and the Department of Parks and Recreation would assess the need to update information in the EIS at the time each project is designed.



**28. Robert N. Newhouse**

**28.1**—Your comment helped to highlight several inconsistencies in the draft EIS regarding parking numbers. A new table has been added to the final EIS that clarifies the changes to the parking proposed under the plan. The final EIS text has been edited to correct errors and confusing statements found in the draft EIS. See Table 2 in the final EIS for corrected and revised figures.

Letter 28

**PARKING FACILITIES (FROM DEIS DOCUMENT)**

**28.1**

- 1. CONSOLIDATE 6 EXISTING LOTS (108 CARS) AT NORTH END OF ARBORETUM INTO THE EXPANDED GVC LOT.**
- 2. REDUCE ARBORETUM DRIVE LOTS FROM 10 (102 CARS) TO 3 LOTS (30 CARS).**
- 3. EXPAND GVC LOT FROM 47 TO 109 CARS.**
- 4. EXPAND INTERLAKEN BLVD FROM 26 TO 28 CARS.**
- 5. EXPAND JAPANESE GARDEN FROM 112 TO 128 CARS AND 4 BUSES.**
- 6. ADD AN 18 CAR LOT NE OF WOODLAND MEADOW.**
- 7. ADD 60 CAR LOT AT THE NEW MADRONA TERRACE.**

	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>PORTICO</u>	<u>DEIS</u>
LOTS	20	4	8
CARS	391	475	549*
BUSES	0	12	4

\*COULD BE 441 DEPENDING ON ONTERPRETATION OF ITEM 1 ABOVE

28.2—Comment  
acknowledged.

(Letter 28)

**WHY CHANGE FROM EXISTING CONDITIONS**

**28.2 | PORTICO PLAN:**

- 1) PARKING FOR VISITORS IS**
  - a) INSUFFICIENT**
  - b) SPREADOUT**
  - c) UNATTRACTIVE**
  - d) UNSAFE**
- 2) SCHOOL AND TOUR BUSES HAVE INSUFFICIENT DROP-OFF AREAS AND NO PLACE TO PARK**
- 3) SAFETY: HIGH CAR PROWL AREA  
(HOW ABOUT IN THE ISOLATED, PROPOSED  
THREE SHELTERS?)**

**REBUTTAL**

**1a) INSUFFICIENT VISITOR PARKING:**

**POSSIBLY. THE EXPANSION OF GVC WOULD ADD 62 SPACES. DON'T REMOVE THE LOTS ON ARBORETUM DRIVE—ANOTHER 72 SPACES.**

**1b) PARKING LOTS ARE "SPREADOUT":**

**ABSOLUTELY. THIS IS PART OF THE CHARM OF THE PARK. CASE IN POINT: HANDICAPPED PEOPLE WHO CAN'T WALK FAR.**

**1c) UNATTRACTIVE:**

**HOGWASH (SEE ATTACHED PHOTOS)**

**1d) UNSAFE:**

**ALWAYS OF CONCERN. SPD STATES THAT WASHINGTON PARK IS ABOUT THE SAME AS THE OTHER LARGE MAJOR SEATTLE PARKS.**

**28.3**—Accommodating buses in the existing Graham Visitors Center lot would reduce its capacity for cars. During non-peak periods, buses could park there without causing capacity problems. Tour buses are seen as one means of accommodating visitors that reduces the need for individual automobile use.

**28.4**—Comments acknowledged.

(Letter 28)

**28.3 | 2) GVC COULD BE MODIFIED TO ACCOMMODATE SCHOOL BUSES. DO WE REALLY NEED TOUR BUSES?**

**28.4 | 4) SAFETY, AS STATED EARLIER, IS ALWAYS OF PRIME CONCERN. THERE APPEARS TO BE CONFLICTING REPORTS AS TO WHETHER LARGER (PARKING LOTS) ARE SAFER. THERE ARE POLICE REPORTS THAT, DEPENDING ON INTERPRETATION, WILL SUPPORT EITHER VIEWPOINT.**

**CONCLUSION**

**WITH THE EXCEPTION OF GVC, LEAVE THE OTHER PARKING LOTS ALONE ESPECIALLY THOSE ON ARBORETUM DRIVE.**

**I APPLAUD THE ADDING OF SAFETY FEATURES SUCH AS LIGHTING AND TELEPHONE/COMMUNICATION "BOXES."**

**AS IN ANY LARGE CITY, AND ESPECIALLY AFTER DARK, PEOPLE MUST BE AWARE OF THEIR SURROUNDINGS FROM A SAFETY STANDPOINT—MEN AND WOMEN ALIKE!**

**Robert N. Newhouse  
rnnewhouse@wa.freeci.net**

**15 June 2000**

29. Jim Kearnes

29.1—The EIS acknowledges that significant impacts could occur if left turns are unrestricted at the Lake Washington Boulevard/SR 520 intersection. Because the issues raised by changes to this intersection are beyond the intended scope of the master plan. The ABGC has decided not to propose changes to existing stop and turn restrictions.

Letter 29

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Peter Marshall - Re: Comments on Arboretum Master Plan DEIS Page 1

**From:** Peter Marshall  
**To:** "jkeames@scn.org"@RES01.Internet2  
**Subject:** Re: Comments on Arboretum Master Plan DEIS

Receipt acknowledged. We'll respond in more detail in the Final EIS document later this summer. Thank you for your comments.

>>> "Jim Kearnes" <jkeames@scn.org> 06/22 7:52 AM >>>  
**PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON THE ARBORETUM MASTER PLAN D.E.I.S. VIA RETURN E-MAIL:**

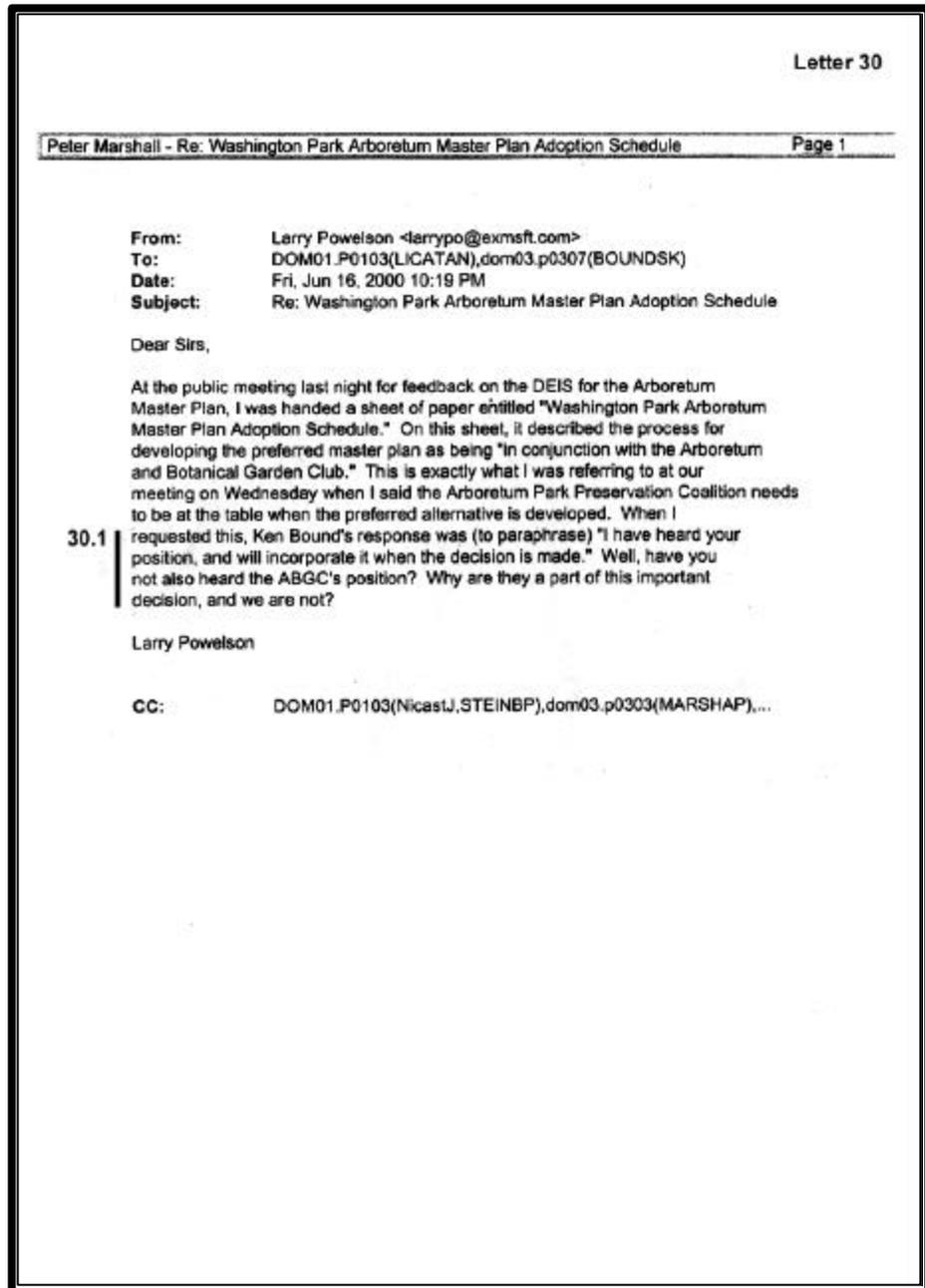
**29.1** Environmental review of the re-establishment of access to the eastbound SR-520 "Arboretum" on-ramp from southbound Lake Washington Boulevard, that is proposed in the Arboretum Master Plan, must include analysis of adverse traffic impacts on Montlake Boulevard, the Montlake Bridge; and East Roanoke, Louisa, Miller, Calhoun and McGraw Streets between 24th Avenue East ("Montlake Boulevard") and Lake Washington Boulevard.

The Draft EIS states that "[i]n the absence of an effective means of preventing left turn or U-turn movement from southbound Lake Washington Boulevard onto the eastbound SR-520 on-ramp, [installing a roundabout or four-way stop-controlled intersection at the junction of Lake Washington Boulevard, Foster Island Road, and the SR-520 ramps] would result in an unavoidable adverse impact." Specifically, the DEIS finds that the provision of access to eastbound SR-520 from southbound Lake Washington Boulevard is likely to result in the diversion of a significant volume of traffic from the eastbound SR-520 on-ramp on Montlake Boulevard to southbound Lake Washington Boulevard, and on to the "Arboretum" on-ramp. This diversion of traffic destined for eastbound SR-520 to the northern portion of southbound Lake Washington Blvd. is also likely to result in adverse traffic impacts on Montlake Boulevard. Southbound traffic queuing for the eastbound SR-520 on-ramp already blocks the southbound curb lane of Montlake Boulevard much of the time. If access to SR-520 from southbound Lake Washington Blvd. is re-established, increased traffic will queue for the left turn from Montlake Blvd. to southbound Lake Washington Boulevard, will block the center lane of Montlake Boulevard (in addition to the existing blockage of the curb lane).

Re-establishment of access to SR-520 from southbound Lake Washington Blvd. would also result in many Eastside-bound commuters cutting through residential streets between East McGraw and Roanoke to avoid backups on the northern portion of Lake Washington Blvd. and at the left turn from Montlake Blvd. About ten years ago, this situation had become a sufficient impact on these residential streets, that the Seattle Parks Department installed c-curbs and traffic islands on Lake Washington Blvd. E. and on 25th Ave. E., and signs and c-curbs to prohibit a left turn to the SR-520 "Arboretum" on-ramp, in a very successful effort to eliminate this "cut through" traffic. Indeed, it now appears that the proposal to construct a roundabout or four-way stop, without restrictions on the left turn from southbound Lake Washington Blvd. at the "Arboretum" ramp to SR-520, would simply result in the Parks Department's use of additional public funds to reverse its earlier successful mitigation efforts.

**30. Larry Powelson**

**30.1**—The Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee (ABGC) is the body that the Seattle City Council, the University of Washington Board of Regents, and the governor have appointed to advise them on the management of the Washington Park Arboretum. In that role, the ABGC has developed the proposed plan. Once the EIS process is complete (and not before), the ABGC is expected to propose a plan to the City of Seattle and the university for approval. The superintendent of parks, as a member of the ABGC, is charged with representing the city's interests on the ABGC. The planning process has been designed to allow the superintendent and other ABGC members the opportunity to hear public comments prior to deciding on the final ABGC recommendation for the master plan.



**31. Deborah Green**

**31.1**—Comments acknowledged.

**31.2**—See the responses to comments 4.12, 9.4, and 23.1.

**31.3**—Comments acknowledged.

**Letter 31**

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**Peter Marshall - the arborteuem plan** **Page 1**

**From:** "Deborah Green" <debgreen@seanet.com>  
**To:** "Peter Marshall" <peter.marshall@ci.seattle.wa.us>...  
**Date:** Wed, Jun 14, 2000 9:22 AM  
**Subject:** the arborteuem plan

10 June 2000

Peter Marshall peter.marshall@ci.seattle.wa.us.  
Paul Schell paul.schell@ci.seattle.wa.us.  
Nick Licata nick.licata@ci.seattle.wa.us  
appc@scn.org;

Dear Peter Marshall

Enclosed is a copy of a letter sent in April 1999 to Nick Licata. The same points hold. My points have not yet been seriously considered by the city or the Arboretum Foundation, or related powers.

Regarding the Washington Park Arboretum some points can be summarized simply: this is a public park and arboretum—UW funding is public too. The site is not for empire building by individuals, firms, groups, or institutions. There is no intrinsic justification for a food concession (with resulting trash and need for parking), which was first suggested in the Park Department "initial survey" to citizens years ago. And to develop this special and not large piece of public land with buildings and parking lots when it is dedicated to other purposes is misuse of public funding and intent. "World class" seems to be a PR term for developers.

**31.1** | Public concerns have been pretty scrupulously dismissed as this plan has unfolded—in spite of appearances. Removal of meetings to Seattle Center was a cynical move to take power out of the neighborhoods: there's plenty of space at MOHAI and at school auditoriums, without expensive parking. Citizens have been endlessly told by plan promoters that we do not understand the fine plan, when we understand all too well; we don't need further details and expensive promotion with slides of beautiful flowers.

**31.2** | If Mr. Hamilton is committed to educating school children and adolescents, why not do so at the CUH with trips by bus to the arboretum for field trips? If more space is needed, why not build up at CUH? Or investigate MOHAI if that is an option—which a year later seems even more obvious.

**31.3** | Please do all you can to stop the plan to develop the public arboretum and park in the purported name of education. There are other sites close by that can be used for this purpose. There are also close-by sites to pick up food and lattes. Then all that is needed is more garbage cans. It is not appropriate for the city to misuse the park and arboretum by going into the restaurant business as a way to raise money and

(Letter 31)

Peter Marshall - the arborteuum plan

Page 2

**31.3** pretend they are doing something else; the indirect, dishonest  
**conti.** way that this aspect of the plan has been handled typifies  
much more about the plan. How about being direct and  
saying: we need money so we are going into the coffee  
business --unless there are other options. That would have  
raised money.

As to more buildings and parking lots in the arboretum, I  
become incoherent. They are totally inappropriate,  
especially given the already limited space. More cars should  
be the opposite of what is intended for this open space;  
the same is true of more buildings-or higher buildings.

The half million, surely more than that, spent promoting this  
plan to be "world class" would have been better spent on  
maintenance. The Arboretum Foundation and some at the  
university seem to be out of touch with the purpose of the  
arboretum and park, its original conception, and its role as  
a public institution.

Manipulation by those in power is what we keep seeing  
these days--it's sad.

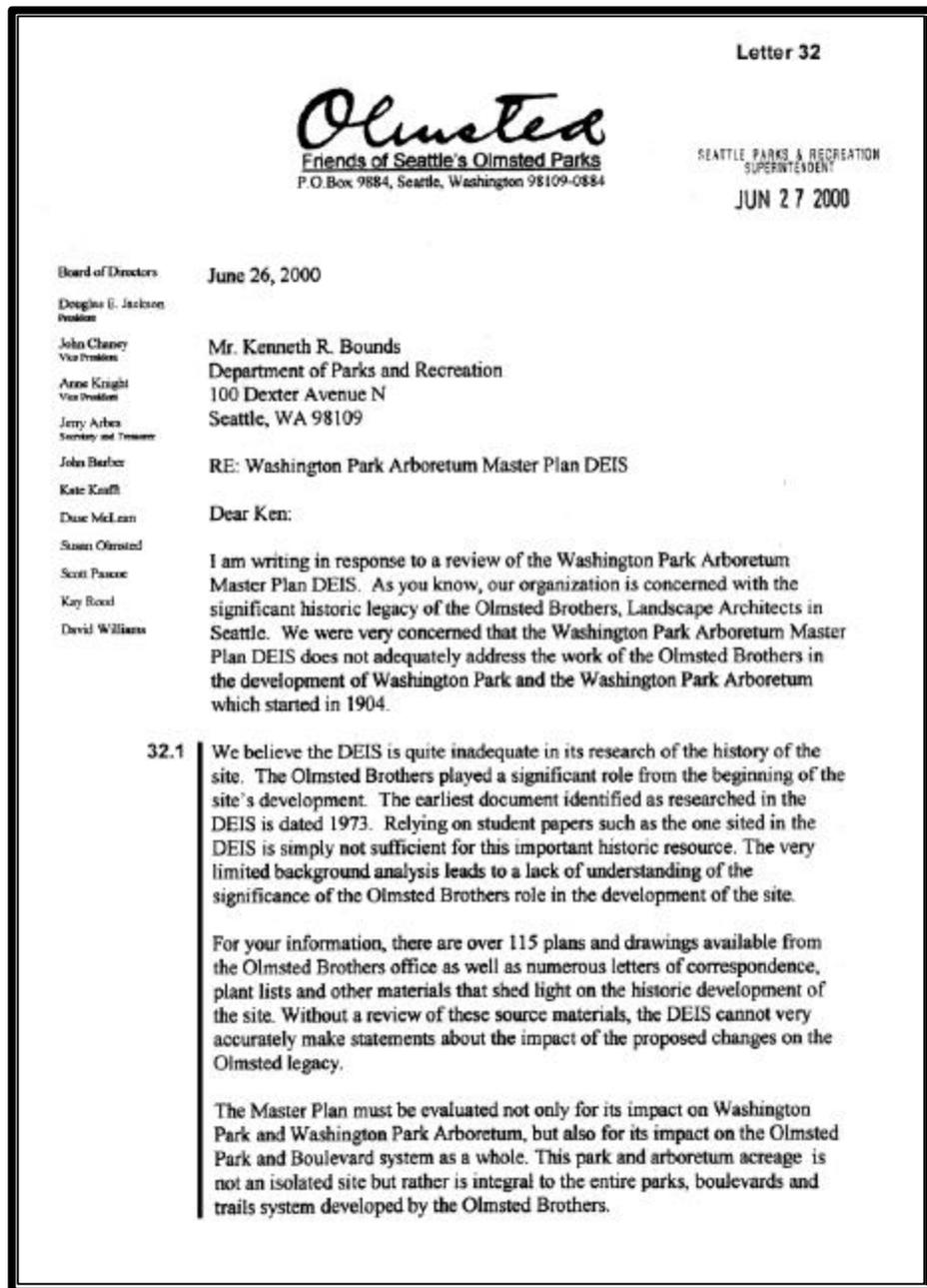
With regards and thanks for your attention,

Deborah Green  
2810 Montlake Blvd East  
Seattle, WA 98112-2016  
debgreen@seanet.com  
322 6484 phone and fax

cc: The Arboretum Park Preservation Coalition <appc@scn.org;  
Mayor Schell;  
Nick Licata, Chair, Culture, Arts and Parks; Seattle City Council

**32. Douglas Jackson,  
Friends of Seattle's  
Olmsted Parks**

**32.1**—The final EIS contains some additional analysis in the Historic and Cultural Resources section, including information on Arboretum Drive. Also see the responses to comments A1.1, A2.1, and A2.2.



(Letter 32)

June 26, 2000  
Arboretum DEIS - Bounds  
Page 2

32.1 In the Summary on page 12 under **Historic and Cultural Resources**, the DEIS states that the Master Plan will not significantly affect the historic character of the historically significant areas and structures of the park. Yet, the Master Plan changes will significantly impact the historic resources by further eroding the Olmsted features. For example, there needs to be a more thorough analysis of the changes proposed to East Arboretum Drive, how it was designed, implemented and is proposed to be changed. This roadway has been an important part of the historic development of Washington Park from the very beginning. With each change there needs to be an analysis of the original intent as documented in the original plans and letters of the Olmsted Brothers and the implementation under the guidance of the this firm.

While the DEIS indicates on page 159 under **Proposed Plan and Alternatives to the Proposed Plan** that several areas and structures within the Washington Park Arboretum may be considered historically significant. As a matter of fact, we feel as though the entire Washington Park, the Arboretum as well as Lake Washington Boulevard that bisects this park are eligible for historic designation due to their design as part of Seattle's Olmsted Park and Boulevard System. As part of the Park and Arboretum, East Arboretum Drive should also be listed as eligible for designation.

The DEIS on page 159 under **Mitigation Measures** calls for the option of contact with the Seattle Landmark Preservation Board. Given the historic significance of the entire site to Seattle, we feel that mitigation measures should require the preparation of an historic nomination for Washington Park and the Arboretum site and its features prior to implementation of the Master Plan so that the Landmark Preservation Board can participate in the review of any proposed changes.

In summary, we believe the City needs to be fully aware of its historic resources. In addition to our concerns stated above, we believe it is important that the goals of the Master Plan be expanded to include preservation of and education about the historic resources present in Washington Park, the Arboretum as well as the role of the Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects in this history.

Thank you very much for your time and kind consideration.

Sincerely,



Douglas E. Jackson  
FSOP, President

CC: Peter Marshall, DPR  
Nick Licata, Seattle City Council

**33. Arthur Grey**

**33.1**—The final EIS contains some additional analysis in the Historic and Cultural Resources section, including information on the park and boulevard plan. Also see the responses to comments A1.1, A2.1, and A2.2.

Letter 33

6-25-2000

Comments regarding the Washington Park Arboretum Master Plan: Draft Environmental Impact Statement. From: Arthur Grey

**33.1 Two Inextricable Parts to Judging this Environmental Impact**

There are two principal parts to any action addressing the future of this area. These parts are correctly seen as inextricably intertwined. To act affirmatively and substantially approve the proposed master plan for the Arboretum within Washington Park would seriously miscarry public policy. There have been numerous instances which have tolled the bell for the Olmsted Parks and Boulevards Plan proposed for Seattle over 90 years ago. The developmental intentions of this so-called master plan, if acted upon, will be nothing short of sounding the death knell for the Olmsted program as generations have known and admired it. The situation is that serious. The two intertwined aspects are as follows:

1. Others have spoken vigorously expressed themselves before; at the hearing on the D.E.I.S. held on June 15, 2000 almost all who spoke as individuals or representatives of organizations were agreed that the master plan contains very bad ideas highly inconsistent with the common public perception of the value and purposes of Washington Park. Repeatedly, these speakers vigorously disagreed with the assertion of the D.E.I.S. that construction of a building and parking as proposed in the "Madrone" area of Washington Park will have insignificant impacts. I agree thoroughly with those opinions. I believe that the sponsors have utterly failed to show why their development project is (a) consistent with the original expressed intent of the existing agreement for University use of the presently designated Arboretum area of Washington Park and (b) it is utterly undemonstrated that the new University proposal in its aggregate provides any kind of social benefit comparable to the havoc being created. The foregoing states my understanding of the first of the two aspects of judging the master plan proposal.
2. Expression on the second part of my objections, which I think should weigh no less heavily against the proposed Arboretum master plan, has received no notice in the D.E.I.S. Regretably, public response has been so intent in responding to the clearer and present danger - direct aggressive action of the University tenant to rewrite the nature of the Arboretum - that the insult it portends to the whole of the Olmsted scheme of things has not so far been given the attention which it should have. The Olmsted firm of Brookline, Massachusetts with whom the City of Seattle, with wonderful imagination and foresight, contracted for the preparation of their (the Olmsteds) Parks and Boulevards Plan for the City of Seattle, impressively ambitious but at the same time very realistic in the detailed conditions and proposals it set forth. Seattle had little more than 100,000 population and there was no such reality as a metropolitan area. It was a unique opportunity to so inscribe on the land encompassed by Seattle the wonderful potential of the Olmsted system, before growth and development would forever preclude doing so.

It is a very serious flaw, as a basis of judging the impacts of the Arboretum master plan to in effect take Washington Park as a totality which can be considered satisfactorily

1

33.2—Comment acknowledged.

(Letter 33)

Comments on Draft E.I.S., Arboretum master plan  
by Arthur Grey, June 25, 2000

33.1 | in isolation from the Park and Boulevard System as a whole. But that is not new. The  
conti. | Park and Boulevard system has been repeatedly treated with indifference and degraded  
over time by the accumulated negligent acts. Examination of the record over the decades  
shows that the Olmsted Plan, which is one of the ready boasts of civic pride and  
distinction, has only been honored by lip service not by conservation.

Jane Holtz Kay, an urban and environmental journalist, has written of the "green necklace" of Boston, its parks and boulevards originally conceived by the Olmsteds, and how, over the years it was dishonored and deprecatd by neglect and exploitation of its area by use for parking and other travesties. Kay, however, has had the recent pleasure of describing how Boston came to acknowledge its great legacy and has taken important strides to restore the Olmsted system in that city - "the green necklace" - to a condition reflective of the intentions of the original design. It would be a good idea to hear from Jane Holtz Kay about what is going on in Seattle, or what is not going on to protect and restore the Olmsted legacy.

33.2 | **The Calamitous Consequences of Ignoring the Wholeness of the Olmsted Program**

What has happened over the years to the program which the Olmsteds prepared for the City of Seattle? Talk of the great Olmsted contribution to our city's amenity, distinctive character, and reputation, but actions that have been negative as far as the "green necklace" aspect. In other words, when civic attention has been focused by municipal action, it has been largely out of context on individual parks - e.g., Green Lake, Seward Park, Ravenna Park, Discovery Park (part of the Olmsted necklace as Fort Lawton), and, yes, Washington Park. Over the years divergent objectives have torn like feeding pirannas into the corpus of the Olmsted plan. I shall illustrate by reference to some of the predations at the expense of the original coherence and beauty of the Olmsted program for parks and boulevards.

Awhile ago I picked up a copy of the Annual Report of the Seattle Planning Commission, then infelicitously under the Board of Public Works, for the year 1953. It was heavy with enthusiastic precursive proposals for what became I-5 and St. Route 520. But the discommoding of existing features of the city, including the Parks and Boulevards was ignored. Too bad some of this was not literal "tunnel vision" depositing elements of this underground, instead of just tunnel vision in the figurative sense, a narrow-minded concentration on building freeways arrogantly indifferent to what was being compromised. Results for Olmsted: the monstrous freeway on stilts ripping across Ravenna Blvd. and Rt. 520 bisecting the northern limits of Washington Park. These vandalous acts committed in the name of the urgency of managing traffic and cost containment. (Oh yes, it is serendipinous that eventually the freeway slashing downtown eventually gave that area a park, thanks mainly to the masterful civic activism of Jim Ellis, but resources are always much more generously available downtown than for rectifying egregious mistakes elsewhere in the city.)

John Olmsted, the chief designer and spokesperson for the plan made a prophetic statement almost 100 years ago (in 1903): "It would be unbusinesslike for the city to trust merely to the good-will and cordial co-operation of future University officials." And so it came to pass that the course of a public boulevard crossing the University "grounds" (as the area was then called) was eventually lost without expression of city concern or seeking

**33.3**—The EIS includes an analysis of the changes proposed for the boulevard. The only other known changes to the boulevard system citywide are restoration and expansion efforts referred to in the *Seattle Parks and Recreation Plan 2000*. Evaluation of planning and development along the entire park and boulevard system is beyond the scope of this EIS. The *Seattle Parks and Recreation Plan 2000* includes policies regarding the boulevard system that may address your concerns.

**33.4**—The *Seattle Parks and Recreation Plan 2000* includes goals and objectives regarding the historic park and boulevard system. These goals and policies directly address this issue. In addition, the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has participated in recent discussions with the *Trans-Lake Washington Study* consultants, who are considering various possibilities for a lid over SR 520 in this area. While DPR would support such a restoration of the north end of the arboretum, conversion of the unused freeway ramp is included in the proposed plan in order to restore a measure of connection to the Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI) area north of SR 520. The ramp conversion is of a magnitude that is attainable within the capital improvement resources available in the next 10 years. If a freeway lid is actually constructed, the ramp project could be dropped.

(Letter 33)

Comments on Draft E.I.S., Arboretum master plan  
by Arthur Grey, June 25, 2000

**33.2** | a nearby alternative which at the time was quite feasible. In diffrence to Olmsted and his  
contl. | works has reigned and continues to do so. Drive south on Lake Washington Blvd.to the  
recently constructed McCaw residence. Here the view marveled at in Olmsted's day has  
been  
almost wholly appropriated by a solid wall over 6 feet high along the sidewalk. so that  
only a Sonics player strolling along or passing by in a SUV might get a glimpse of Lake  
Washington over the wall. A terrible precedent. This year, at the southwest corner of  
Roosevelt Way and Ravenna Boulevard, a new commercial structure has been put up  
without any regard, once again, for the Olmsted design. The approval should have found  
the city ready to exact a setback from the sidewalk on the Ravenna Boulevard consistent  
with the nature of Ravenna Boulevard.

**33.3** | **Application to the Arboretum Proposal, A Situation of Wasted Time**  
All this adds up to, in my view, demonstration that the approval of the Arboretum  
plan would be another instance of habitual careless in ignoring the Parks and Boulevards  
unity and would be a failure to judge the Arboretum master plan in the appropriate fullness  
of its impact.  
Therefore, the master plan for conversion of the nature of the Arboretum as  
predominantly passive in nature to an activity requiring a large building and generating  
more traffic emphatically should be rejected.

**33.4** | **Further, what should be done to clarify the woefully neglected nature of the Parks  
and Boulevards system? This problem urgently needs attention. The entire Arboretum  
master plan of the University of Washington, the hearings, the preparation of an  
Environmental Impact Statement, and the absorbtion of the time those working on and to  
deliberate upon this, as well as the time of many citizens is a wasteful dissipation of time,  
energy, and money.**

**Toward A Sound Policy**  
The City should have a clear policy, after almost 100 years which explicitly  
clarifies the status of the Olmsted Plan. The following steps are offered as a serious  
program of action to be considered:  
A. Immediately put the Olmsted Parks and Boulevard on the statute book: Pass  
an ordinance declaring it to be an important and unique resource of this city and its  
citizens.  
Declare a moratorium on all new development, unless expressly exempted as not relevant,  
along the Olmsted green necklace pending passage of a fully considered policy to preserve  
and protect it.  
B. Announce pursuit of all means to secure the lidding over of Rt. 520 in the  
Montlake community and again making Washington Park whole. (The only redress to  
past injury to Washington Park was dropping the proposed R.H. Thompson expressway  
and restoring its intended right-of-way to park use.) And ceaselessly lobby to severely  
modify I-5 to end its transgression at Ravenna Boulevard.  
C. It is perhaps appropriate that the attentions of the Parks and Recreation Board  
have been fixed on the demanding on-going responsibilities of a more or less day-to-day

3

(Letter 33)

Comments on Draft E.I.S., Arboretum master plan  
by Arthur Grey, June 25, 2000

33.4 nature and has not offered insights into the problem of really recognizing the Olmsted plan.  
conti. Therefore, the City Council should create a special advisory committee with a fixed life to  
study and propose how the Olmsted program is to be protected and incorporated  
in the developmental and environmental life of Seattle.

D. There might well eventuate from this study the creation of an "overlay"  
Olmsted Historic Parks and Boulevards District within the zoning code.

I earnestly believe it is time to exercise foresight and end the ambiguity besetting  
the Olmsted plan resulting in the Arboretum master plan and other erosion which results  
from failure to recognize the importance of the intertwined wholeness of the system and  
that it is not legitimate good faith to Washington Park or any other park to do less.

Respectfully submitted,



ARTHUR GREY  
344 McGilvra Blvd. East  
Seattle, WA 98112  
(206) 323-4785

**34. Doug Welti**

**34.1**—Please see the response to comment 1.5.

**34.2**—See the response to comment 1.7.

**34.3**—See the response to comment 2.3.

**34.4**—See the response to comment 4.3.

Letter 34

This EIS is not just an attempt to qualify the ABGS proposal. It also attempts to prove the superiority of the ABGS plan over the alternative plans. Specious reasoning, inference and prejudicial wording are used to accomplish this. Faulty conclusions abound under the refrain of "no significant unavoidable impacts". The reader should be alert. Examples follow.

- 34.1** | **Specious reasoning** The EIS acknowledges that adverse impacts will occur but reasons that since these impacts will occur gradually they don't count! Adverse impacts are adverse impacts and cannot be so glibly put aside.
- 34.2** | **Inference:** On page 15 the EIS characterizes the Coalition's vision as (merely) a neighborhood view while the ABGS vision is city-wide and regional. (Bigger is better.) This jab has nothing to do with the environment and has no place in an EIS. It is inaccurate. Several neighborhoods participate and our goal is also city-wide. We want to preserve the Arboretum for all the citizens of Seattle (and visitors).
- 34.3** | **Wording:** The words "No Action" suggest that we who are against the ABGS plan would allow the Arboretum to deteriorate out of neglect. Nothing could be farther from the truth. We are strongly in favor of intensified maintenance including replacement of specimens when necessary. We simply do not want to change the nature of the Arboretum experience. It is a place where natural beauty seems greater than human influences, a refuge for the spirit.
- 34.4** | **Faulty conclusions** Conspicuous signs certainly do have an adverse impact. They spoil the view for those (the majority) who are not there to be educated and they give precious little information for those who do want it. The signs that have already been erected are perfect examples. They are intrusive, and they pretend to educate but on examination the content is not there. Signs do not work well here. There is a better way.

Doug Welti 2416 E. McGraw St. Seattle, WA 98112 206.322.7714



(Letter 34)

**SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

**WASHINGTON PARK ARBORETUM MASTER PLAN**

**Draft Environmental Impact Statement**

**COMMENT SHEET**

The Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation welcomes your comments. Please deposit this sheet in the comment box as you leave, or mail to address on back of this sheet. Written comments will be accepted until June 26, 2000.

*This EIS is not just an attempt to qualify the ABGS proposal. It also attempts to prove the superiority of the MBS plan over the alternative plans. Specious reasoning, inference and prejudicial wording are used to accomplish this. Faulty conclusions abound under the refrain of "no significant unavoidable impacts". The reader should be alert. Examples follow.*

*Specious reasoning* The EIS acknowledges that adverse impacts will occur but reasons that since these impacts will occur gradually they don't count! Adverse impacts are adverse impacts and cannot be so glibly put aside.

*Inference* On page 15 the EIS characterizes the Coalition's vision as (merely) a neighborhood view while the ABGS vision is city-wide and regional. (Bigger is better.) This job has nothing to do with the environment and has no place in an EIS. It is inaccurate. Several neighborhoods participate and our goal is also city-wide. We want to preserve the Arboretum for all the citizens of Seattle (and visitors).

*Wording* The words "No Action" suggest that we who are <sup>Reprinted</sup> ~~add~~ the ABGS plan. Arboretum to deteriorate out of neglect. Nothing could be farther from the truth. We are strongly in favor of intensified maintenance including replacement of specimens when necessary. We simply do not want to change the nature of the Arboretum experience. It is a place where natural beauty seems greater than human influences, a refuge for the spirit.

*Faulty conclusions* Conspicuous signs certainly do have an adverse impact. They spoil the view for those (the majority) who are not there to be educated and they give precious little information for those who do want it. The signs that have already been erected are perfect examples. They are intrusive, and they pretend to educate but on examination the content is not there. Signs do not work well here. There is a better way.

Doug Welti 2416 E. McGraw St. Seattle, WA 98112 206.322.7714

If you wish to have your name added to the mailing list to receive project updates, please fill out the information below. *Please print clearly.*

Name Doug Welti  
Address 2416 E. McGraw St  
Seattle WA 98112-2634

### 35. Tim Tapping

35.1—Please see the response to comment 1.3.

35.2—Thank you for your suggestion.

Letter 35

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Peter Marshall - Save Washington Park Arboretum from development! Page 1

**From:** Tim Tapping <timt@microsoft.com>  
**To:** "peter.marshall@ci.seattle.wa.us" <peter.marshal...>  
**Date:** Fri, Jun 2, 2000 6:00 AM  
**Subject:** Save Washington Park Arboretum from development!

35.1 | Wanted to let you know, regardless of what the EIS states, i think the major building proposals (new meeting center across the road from the current one, another building on the south end, etc) would destroy the character of the Arboretum.

35.2 | The argument is that space is needed for educational purposes for children. Those spaces are already built, they are called schools! A better use of money would be a "bookmobile" type of vehicle that could visit schools in preparation for outings to the Arboretum. That way when the kids show up, they can experience a great Seattle institution.

Azealea Way drainage and trails accessibility do need to be addressed. A cohesive, sensible plan for the plant collections should be implemented.

On a more personal note, when my mother was undergoing chemotherapy near the end of her life, we often went to the Arboreteum. A P-I photographer took our picture under one of the first trees to blossom in Seattle, a flowering prune. Every spring in March when that tree goes off, i take my kids to the Arboretum to see the tree and remember their Grandma. That tree is in the middle of the proposed learning center.

Please go lightly with "improvements" and preserve the character!!!

-- tim

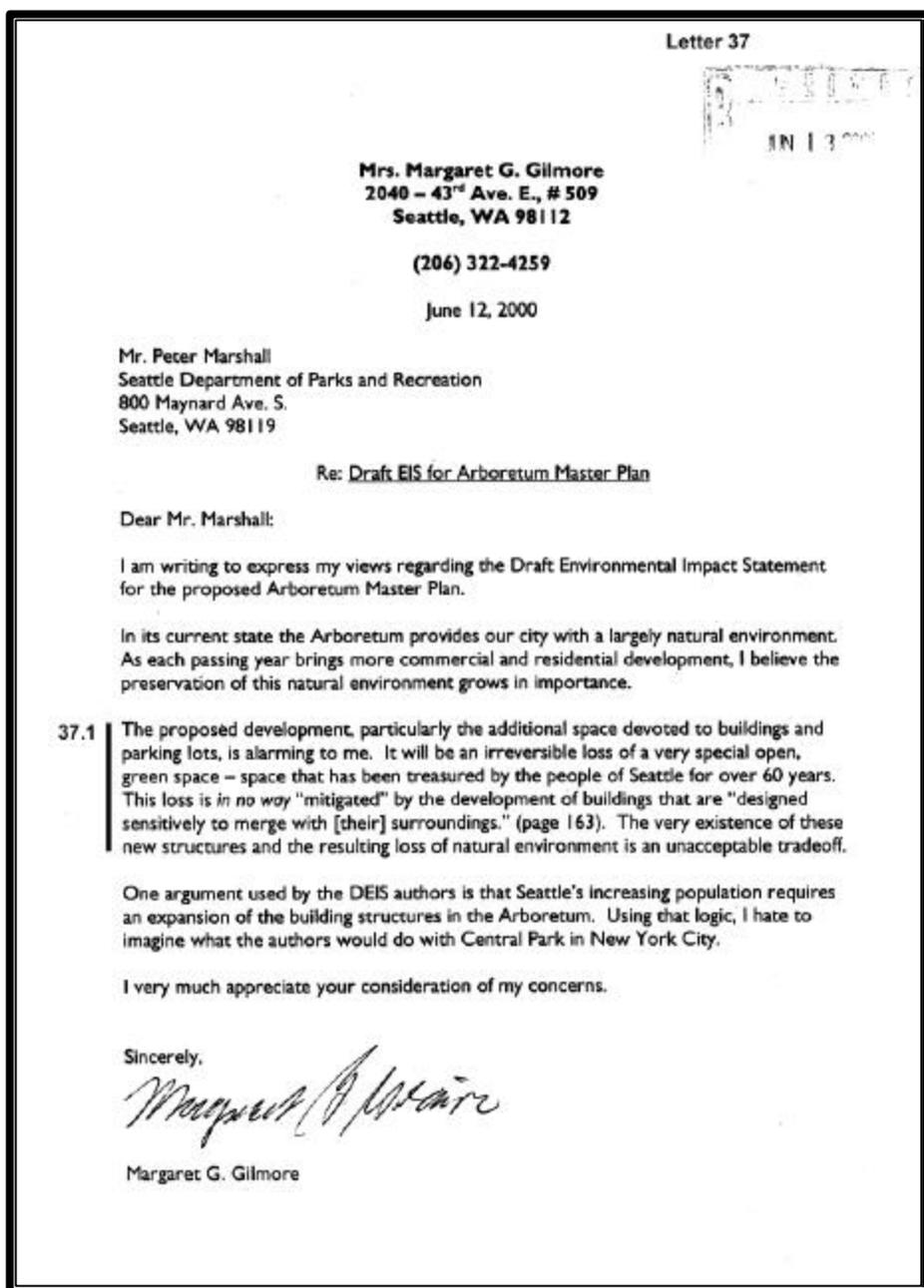
**36. Rosemary and John  
Murphy**

**36.1**—Please see the additional discussion of impacts under the Historical and Cultural Resources section and the Aesthetics section of the final EIS.

<b>Letter 36</b>	
<b>Peter Marshall - Washington Park Arboretum Changes</b>	<b>Page 1</b>
<b>From:</b>	<DadJAMurph@aol.com>
<b>To:</b>	dom03.p0303(MARSHAP)
<b>Date:</b>	Wed, Jun 14, 2000 12:28 PM
<b>Subject:</b>	Washington Park Arboretum Changes
<b>To:</b>	Peter Marshall Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation
<b>CC:</b>	City Council Nick Licata, Peter Steinbrueck, Sue Donaldson, Richard Conlin Jim Compton, Jan Drago, Judy Nicrasto, Margaret Pageler, Heidi Wills
We have read the draft of the Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Arboretum Master Plan and are disappointed that this proposed plan shows complete disregard of those of us who wish to keep the park with green and open space as it is now.	
<b>36.1</b>	The Arboretum is one of the few places in Seattle where we can find peace and quiet among the many trees, shrubs, flowering azaleas and rhododendrons, not to mention the Japanese Tea Garden which has its own beauty. We believe the plan of the Olmstead brothers was to give us a quiet place to enjoy among the bustle of a busy city. This is the Arboretum we love. We don't need more buildings, parking lots, and tea rooms. We have plenty of those in the surrounding area.
We do however, agree that a bike path is sorely needed and encourage you to keep this in the plan.	
Thank you for your consideration in this matter	
Sincerely, Rosemary and John Murphy Rsmrymrphy@aol.com	
<b>CC:</b>	DOM01.P0103(WillsH,DRAGOJ,CONLINR,STEINBP,LICATAN)...

37. Margaret G. Gilmore

37.1—Please see the response to comment 1.3.





**38. Sharon Florakis**

**38.1**—Please see the responses to comments 1.3 and 1.4.

**38.2**—See the response to comment 2.4.

**38.3**—See the response to comment 1.7.

**Letter 38**

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Peter Marshall - Washington Park Arboretum DEIS Page 1

**From:** sharon florakis <sljacobs2@yahoo.com>  
**To:** dom03.p0303(MARSHAP)  
**Date:** Mon, Jun 26, 2000 7:46 PM  
**Subject:** Washington Park Arboretum DEIS

June 26, 2000

Peter Marshall  
Seattle Dept. of Parks and Recreation  
800 Maynard Avenue S.  
Seattle, WA 98134

Dear Mr. Marshall:

As a lifetime resident of Seattle, I have always treasured the Washington Park Arboretum as an experience of tranquility and nature, including open space, native vegetation along with some other plant exhibits, and trees. It offers people a necessary respite from the increased density and traffic of the city.

I take issue with the DEIS mainly on the following points:

**38.1** – The whole idea of constructing new buildings and parking lots and expanding existing facilities in the park is antithetical to the "existing aesthetic character" of Washington Park. I cannot imagine what would have a MORE "adverse impact" on the park's natural character than the proposed building projects -- including the Madrona Terrace "visitor facility", the "expanded arboretum headquarters building", the "administration building" and the "education facility." Any such buildings, if truly necessary (which is debatable), should be developed OUTSIDE the park.

**38.2** Furthermore, I did not see in the DEIS any reference to Seattle Ordinance 103667, which forbids non-park uses in this park, including construction of buildings for university classrooms, offices, and administration buildings.

**38.3** -- The DEIS states (Page 15) that one "vision" for the Washington Park Arboretum "emphasizes the existing state of the park and its function as a neighborhood resource." On the contrary, this vision, which I share, stresses the park's function as a resource for the WHOLE SEATTLE AREA, whose residents (including myself and other Queen Anne residents), now more than ever, need natural places preserved where they can go for physical and spiritual renewal -- not a

38.4—See the response to comment 1.4.

38.5—See the response to comment 1.1.

38.6—See the response to comment 4.3.

38.7—See discussion of this issue in the Project History section of the final EIS.

(Letter 38)

Peter Marshall - Washington Park Arboretum DEIS

Page 2

**38.3** | commercialized museum of plants catering to busloads  
**conti.** | of tourists. The DEIS illogically claims that  
increased usage in the park necessitates expansion of  
this "museum", whereas, in fact, natural greenspace is  
needed more than ever and should not be paved over in  
favor of buildings and parking lots.

**38.4** | -- The 60-car parking lot would be an eyesore, would  
constitute a large impervious surface, and would  
attract more cars en mass, thus more pollution and  
noise. Moreover, it would entail the loss of trees  
and plants, as would the building which this lot is  
designed to serve. The smaller lots should be  
retained instead.

**38.5** | -- The DEIS should include a map of existing trails  
and the proposed changes. The "no action" alternative  
is least likely to upset the peaceful ambiance of the  
park, and it does include disability access.

**38.6** | -- The DEIS does not address the QUALITY of the  
proposed signage. So far, the new signs now in place  
at the park are unnecessarily large, unsubtle and  
intrusive, detracting from the aesthetic quality of  
the arboretum.

**38.7** | -- I find it disturbing that the main authors of the  
DEIS, Herrera Environmental Consultants, are the same  
group that were consultants on the 1997 Arboretum  
"Greenprint" master plan, of which the ABGC plan is a  
revision.

Thank you for your consideration of these, my comments  
and main concerns.

Sincerely,

Sharon Florakis  
720 W. Argand #2  
Seattle, WA 98119

cc: Ken Bounds;  
Councilman Nick Licata;  
Seattle City Council

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CITY OF SEATTLE  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

PUBLIC HEARING  
ON THE  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR THE WASHINGTON PARK ARBORETUM  
REVISED MASTER PLAN

June 15, 2000  
6:30 p.m.  
The Mountaineers' Club  
300 Third Avenue  
Seattle, Washington

JACQUELINE L. BELLONS, CCR  
Court Reporter

COPY

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00  
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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1

2                   APPEARANCES

3 Hearing Moderator: JOHN GALT

4

5 For Department of Parks and Recreation:

6                                   KENNETH BOUNDS, SUPERINTENDENT  
7                                   DONALD HARRIS

8 Court Reporter:           JACQUELINE L. BELLOWS  
9                                   VAN PELT, CORBETT & ASSOCIATES  
10                                   101 Yesler Way, Suite 505  
11                                   Seattle, Washington 98104

12                                   \* \* \* \* \*

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

5

1  
2 MR. GALT: The hearing will come to order,  
3 please. Our hearing is now in session.

4 Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. On  
5 behalf of Seattle Department of Parks and  
6 Recreation, I welcome you to the June 15, 2000,  
7 public hearing on the Draft Environmental  
8 Impact Statement for the Washington Park  
9 Arboretum Revised Master Plan. I'm John Galt,  
10 the hearing moderator. I've been retained to  
11 moderate this hearing expressly because I do  
12 not work for the City of Seattle or any of its  
13 consultants on this project and I have no role  
14 in the decision-making process involving the  
15 arboretum.

16 If you'd like to testify during the  
17 hearing tonight, please be sure to sign up on  
18 one of the sheets at the table at the back door  
19 where you came in.

20 Before we start the testimony, I'd like to  
21 take just a few minutes to explain the EIS  
22 process for those who may not be familiar with  
23 it and also give you a little bit of the ground  
24 rules for the conduct of the hearing tonight.

25 Preparation of an environmental impact

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

6

1 statement, or an EIS, is a three-step process  
2 presided over by the responsible officials of  
3 the lead agency. State rules require that the  
4 SEPA lead agency for a public project be the  
5 agency that is proposing the project, in this  
6 case, the Seattle Department of Parks and  
7 Recreation. Kenneth Bounds, park  
8 superintendent, who is seated to my immediate  
9 right, is the SEPA responsible official for  
10 this project.

11 The first step in the EIS process is  
12 scoping, in which the environmental issues  
13 which need to be addressed in the EIS are  
14 determined. The scoping project -- excuse me.  
15 The scoping process to this EIS was completed  
16 in the spring of 1999.

17 Second, the lead agency prepares a draft  
18 EIS. The draft EIS is distributed for review  
19 by the public, affected tribes and agencies,  
20 and agencies with expertise in environmental  
21 issues. This review process helps the lead  
22 agency produce a complete and accurate final  
23 EIS by providing an opportunity for comments on  
24 methodology, needed additional information, all  
25 the alternatives, and mitigation measures.

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7

1 Tonight's hearing is part of that  
2 comment-gathering process. This is your  
3 opportunity to tell the lead agency what you  
4 think needs to be done to make the EIS more  
5 accurate and complete.

6 The third step is preparation of the final  
7 EIS. The final EIS is prepared after the close  
8 of the draft EIS review process. The final EIS  
9 will respond to all substantive oral and  
10 written comments received during the review  
11 process. The final EIS will be available to  
12 local decision makers before they make any  
13 implementation decisions regarding this  
14 project.

15 It is important to understand that this is  
16 not a decision-making hearing tonight. Whether  
17 the project should be approved or not is not  
18 the subject of tonight's hearing. The Seattle  
19 City Council will hold at least one public  
20 hearing after the final EIS is issued to decide  
21 whether to approve the Arboretum Master Plan  
22 Update. Your comments tonight should address  
23 the adequacy of the draft EIS, the merits of  
24 the alternatives discussed in the draft EIS or  
25 both.

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

8

1 Seated to my right are two representatives  
2 from the Seattle Parks Department. As the lead  
3 agency, they are responsible for preparing the  
4 final EIS; and it is to them you should address  
5 your comments tonight, not to me. Many people  
6 in these hearings tend to look right at me and  
7 talk to me as if I were the most important  
8 person up here. I'm the traffic cop, if you  
9 will, for the evening's proceedings. The two  
10 gentlemen to my right are the ones who receive  
11 your comments and will then take them back and  
12 prepare the final EIS, considering those  
13 comments in that process. As I've already  
14 indicated, the gentleman to my immediate right  
15 is Ken Bounds, superintendent of the Parks  
16 Department; and to his right is Don Harris, a  
17 member of Parks Department staff.

18 Each speaker tonight will be given three  
19 minutes for oral testimony. Time is not  
20 cumulative and may not be transferred or  
21 yielded to others. When I call your name,  
22 please come forward to the podium so that you  
23 can speak into the microphone that we have at  
24 that location.

25 Our hearing is being both recorded by tape

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9

1 and taken by a court reporter, who is at the  
 2 front of the room to my right. The  
 3 transcription of tonight's hearing will be  
 4 provided to the responsible official to make it  
 5 easier to deal with your questions and your  
 6 comments in the final EIS process. Please help  
 7 make that transcription as useful as possible  
 8 by speaking clearly and not too fast. People  
 9 always have a tendency in these proceedings to  
 10 get up and get on a race track and try and get  
 11 as much crammed into their three minutes as  
 12 they can. If the court reporter can't keep up  
 13 with you, she will signal to me, and I'll ask  
 14 you to slow down. Once you've been recognized  
 15 and have come to the podium, please begin your  
 16 comments by giving us your name and spelling  
 17 your last name.

18 I would like to apologize in advance to  
 19 those of you whose names I positively butcher  
 20 as I try to read them from the sign-up sheet.  
 21 I will do the best that I can, but I've already  
 22 recognized a few that I'm going to have a very  
 23 hard time deciphering. So please bear with me.  
 24 If it sounds like your name, come on up and  
 25 then tell us how to really pronounce it and how

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

10

1 to spell it for the reporter.

2 Part of my job as moderator is to ensure  
 3 that as many of you as possible have the  
 4 opportunity to present oral comments on the  
 5 draft EIS before our evening is adjourned at  
 6 10:00 p.m. I will be strictly enforcing the  
 7 three-minute time limit. When you have one  
 8 minute left to go, I will hold this up; and  
 9 when your three minutes are over, I will hold  
 10 up the stop sign. If you see the stop sign go  
 11 up, please help us out by wrapping up your  
 12 comments as quickly as you can.

13 If you don't choose to speak tonight or if  
 14 you have a lot of detailed or technical  
 15 comments or if three minutes is just simply too  
 16 short a time for you to express all of the  
 17 comments that you wish to, I want to assure you  
 18 that written comments are just as important as  
 19 oral comments. There is a prepared comment  
 20 sheet which you can use. They have supplied  
 21 these back on the sign-up table. On the back  
 22 of it, if you haven't discovered it already, is  
 23 the mailing address that you need to send the  
 24 comment sheet to. You don't have to use this  
 25 form. You can write a letter. You can do

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 11

1 whatever type of written communication works  
2 best for you, send it to the address that's on  
3 the back of the green sheet. That address is  
4 also found in one of the front pages of the  
5 draft EIS. All written comments must be  
6 received by the Parks Department not later than  
7 June 26th in order to be considered in the  
8 preparation of the final EIS.

9 As the moderator, I'm here to ensure that  
10 the hearing is conducted in an orderly fashion.  
11 I'm not able to answer technical questions.  
12 Questions that you ask during your testimony  
13 tonight will be responded to in the final EIS.

14 I'm going to call three names at a time in  
15 order to speed the process along. The first  
16 name in each group that I call will be the next  
17 speaker. The other two, to use a baseball  
18 analogy, will be in the on-deck circle. And so  
19 you can start moving forward. If you're on  
20 this side of the room, you can just come along  
21 the window wall and stand over in the corner so  
22 that as soon as the first speaker's through,  
23 you're ready to move right in behind them and  
24 start your comments. If you're on the other  
25 side of the room, you can just come along that

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 12

1 wall and wait over there until they're through.  
2 Again, I would remind you that once you've  
3 been recognized and you've gotten to the  
4 podium, please be sure to start by telling us  
5 your name and how to spell it. With that,  
6 let's get started.

7 The first person who has indicated the desire  
8 to testify tonight is Paul Gibson. Mr. Gibson? He  
9 will be followed by David Hervey. And then by Jan  
10 Pirzio Biroli. Excuse me. That person didn't check  
11 a desire to speak. Belinda Springer.

12 BELINDA SPRINGER: I'm going to send a  
13 letter because I have a lengthy and very  
14 detailed question, and you will not have the  
15 time.

16 MR. GALT: Okay. Thank you. Then the  
17 third speaker would be Bernice Wheatley. Is  
18 that just a question mark?

19 BERNICE WHEATLEY: I'm not going to speak.

20 MR. GALT: She's not going to speak. Doug  
21 Jackson will then be third. Okay. Mr. Gibson.

22

23 \*Statement #1 STATEMENT OF PAUL GIBSON  
24 PAUL GIBSON: Paul Gibson, G-I-B-S-O-N.  
25 NY.1 My remarks deal with the objectivity and

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## H1. Paul Gibson

**H1.1**—Please see the discussion of this issue in the Project History section of the final EIS.

13

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H1.1 thus the reliability of the EIS, which I find  
2 is significantly compromised for a couple of  
3 reasons. My point is not that such compromise  
4 is inappropriate, which it may or may not be --  
5 I'm not sure -- but when the objectivity is  
6 compromised, I do believe it is incumbent on  
7 the publishers to make clear to the readers  
8 such a condition.

9 The ABGC proposal, which is the main  
10 subject of this EIS, is a revision of the  
11 Arboretum plan 'Greenprint for the Future'  
12 published and endorsed by the ABGC in 1997.  
13 The second group listed on the project planning  
14 team of that plan, is the Herrera Environmental  
15 Consultants. Now it may be that the Department  
16 of Parks and Recreation could not find any  
17 other firm that was competent and willing to do  
18 this EIS. Nevertheless, we have here a case in  
19 which the impacts of the plan are being  
20 evaluated by some of the same people who  
21 developed the plan.

22 Secondly, I was recently allowed to access  
23 some of the communications to, from, and  
24 between the Department of Parks and Recreation  
25 surrounding preparation of this EIS. There I

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14

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H1.7 learned that before the draft EIS was completed  
2 and published, a preliminary DEIS was done and  
3 circulated among some interested parties, not  
4 the APPC, of course, but of course the ABGC,  
5 that is, proponents of the plan. Interestingly  
6 enough, some of the responses from the ABGC  
7 made it verbatim into the EIS.

8 Again, I'm not saying this is necessarily  
9 improper. I'm saying that it should be  
10 candidly revealed that the EIS is not the  
11 product of disinterested, objective, outside  
12 reviewers. This is particularly germane, given  
13 that several conclusions of the EIS are almost  
14 totally subjective. I'm referring to those  
15 concerning the impacts of the plan on the  
16 aesthetic and recreational qualities of  
17 Washington Park.

18 H1.2 For example, the EIS concludes that,  
19 although some folks might not agree, there  
20 really will be only insignificant impacts on  
21 the aesthetics. In reaching this conclusion,  
22 the EIS fails to acknowledge this interesting  
23 finding from a Master's thesis done in 1968 on  
24 who it is that goes to the arboretum. And I'm  
25 quoting from this Master's thesis: 'The major

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H1.2—See the  
response to comment  
1.3 (in comment  
letters).

15

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H1.2 reason that the arboretum clientele are  
2 enjoying the aesthetic features of the area,  
3 rather than its educational and scientific  
4 features, appears to be an unintended  
5 consequence of the selection of the Olmsted  
6 brothers' firm as the designers of the  
7 arboretum. The Olmsteds designed an apparent  
8 natural environment, which has attracted people  
9 for its beauty and amenity value."  
10 The EIS reaches its conclusion of  
11 nonsignificant aesthetic impacts despite a  
12 plethora of information to the effect that that  
13 is the particular, that it is the particular  
14 aesthetics of the place that make it loved.  
15 MR. GALT: Your time is nearly up.  
16 H1.3 PAUL GIBSON: Furthermore, agreed this  
17 hidden bias manifests itself in the  
18 unquestioned acceptance of the goals of the  
19 ABGC and the significantly edited version of  
20 history that the EIS provides.  
21 MR. GALT: Time is up and I thank you.  
22 PAUL GIBSON: I'm hoping to come back at  
23 the very end and give you my second set of  
24 observations.  
25 MR. GALT: One time. If you have a  
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H1.3—Please see revised text in the final EIS.

16

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 longer, written document you'd like to  
2 submit --  
3 PAUL GIBSON: Are you taking these?  
4 MR. GALT: -- we will take them tonight.  
5 Why don't you give it to Mr. Bounds. Thank  
6 you, Mr. Gibson.  
7 Now, our next speaker is David Hervey, who  
8 will be followed by Doug Jackson and then Chuck  
9 Fearman. Mr. Hervey?  
10  
11 \*Statement H2 STATEMENT OF DAVID HERVEY  
12 DAVID HERVEY: Mr. Moderator, Mr. Bounds  
13 and Mr. Harris, my name is David Hervey,  
14 H-E-R-V-E-Y. I'm currently president of the  
15 Arboretum Foundation, and as such I'm also a  
16 member of the Arboretum and Botanical Garden  
17 Committee, which is made up of members from the  
18 City, the University of Washington, the  
19 Arboretum Foundation, and one individual  
20 appointed by the governor.  
21 H2.1 Seattle and the surrounding regional area  
22 is most fortunate to have an area like  
23 Washington Park which also contains a  
24 world-renowned arboretum and Japanese garden.  
25 An area like Washington Park has enormous  
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H2. David Hervey  
H2.1—Comment acknowledged.

17

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H2.1 potential as a place of recreation, quiet  
 2 contemplation, or just the sheer enjoyment of  
 3 the outdoors.  
 4 Having an arboretum also provides the  
 5 potential for conservation and preservation of  
 6 this climate's woody plants, some of which are  
 7 rare and endangered. And, of course, since the  
 8 definition of an arboretum is woody plant  
 9 museum, it presents the potential for education  
 10 of all age groups and interests, from the  
 11 scientific to the casual, in the same fashion  
 12 as all museums. Therefore, during the long  
 13 public process of developing a long-range plan  
 14 for Washington Park, this great potential has  
 15 provided the very important guiding issues.  
 16 Recreation is number one. Washington Park  
 17 is a regional facility, to be enjoyed by all of  
 18 those region's citizens. Conservation -- as an  
 19 arboretum it is a place for conservation and  
 20 protection of the important collection of woody  
 21 plants. Education -- an arboretum is a place  
 22 for learning to occur. As a personal  
 23 statement, I am very much a believer in a  
 24 long-range plan. Without one, an entity is  
 25 certainly assured of the downhill slide.

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18

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H2.1 The draft EIS is an analysis of the many  
 2 ways by which the great potential of Washington  
 3 Park can be attained. One of the few issues  
 4 raised in the EIS is basically this: Do you  
 5 view Washington Park and its arboretum as a  
 6 regional resource for all citizens, or do you  
 7 view it as only a neighborhood park. I have  
 8 chosen the regional resource. Thank you.  
 9 MR. GALT: Thank you. Our next speaker is  
 10 Doug Jackson, who'll be followed by Chuck  
 11 Pearnan and Nancy Knapp. Mr. Jackson.

12  
 13 \*Statement H3 STATEMENT OF DOUG JACKSON  
 14 DOUG JACKSON: My name is Doug Jackson,  
 15 J-A-C-K-S-O-N, the only way to spell Jackson --  
 16 everybody asks. And I am the president of the  
 17 Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks Group.  
 18 I'm a landscape architect, and I  
 19 H3.1 understand the dynamic nature of a public  
 20 facility such as the Washington Park Arboretum.  
 21 But our group feels as though way too much new  
 22 construction and development is being proposed  
 23 H3.2 by the current master plan. We also feel as  
 24 though not nearly enough time or effort has  
 25 been addressed to understanding the history of

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**H3. Doug Jackson**

**H3.1**—Comment acknowledged.

**H3.2**—Please see revised text in the Historic and Cultural Resources section of the final EIS.

19

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H3.2 the arboretum, during the preparation of the  
 2 current master plan.  
 3 Our group also feels as though stating in  
 4 the draft EIS that there would be little or no  
 5 impact on the historical character of the  
 6 arboretum, if the work proposed by the current  
 7 master plan is developed, is very unfortunate,  
 8 false, and borders on the absurd. We feel that  
 9 H3.3 any changes or new construction proposed in the  
 10 arboretum need to be very carefully considered  
 11 and handled with great sensitivity. Especial  
 12 care needs to be exercised when proposing any  
 13 changes or additions to this Washington Park  
 14 Arboretum, and we feel as though the current  
 15 master plan and the complementary draft EIS has  
 16 not done this adequately.  
 17 MR. GALT: Thank you, Mr. Jackson.  
 18 DOUG JACKSON: You're welcome.  
 19 MR. GALT: The next speaker is Chuck  
 20 Pearman, who will be followed by Nancy Knapp,  
 21 who'll then be followed by Charlie Chong.  
 22 Mr. Pearman.  
 23  
 24 \*Statement #4 STATEMENT OF CHUCK PEARMAN  
 25 CHUCK PEARMAN: I'm Chuck Pearman,  
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H3.3—Comment acknowledged.

20

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1 H4.1 P-E-A-R-M-A-N. I live in the Madison Valley,  
 2 Although I am opposed to any new buildings,  
 3 parking lots, or commercialization of our park,  
 4 I'll keep my comments focused on some errors  
 5 and omissions in the draft EIS.  
 6 H4.2 First, land -- there needs to be an  
 7 analysis of the exact amount of land to support  
 8 new buildings or parking lots, new botanical  
 9 displays, and any new or revised trail systems.  
 10 Put this together in a unified summary, not  
 11 H4.3 scattered all over. Analyze the lost park land  
 12 by specifically referring to Initiative 42,  
 13 which states that "Any land or facilities lost  
 14 must be replaced by land or facilities of equal  
 15 or greater value."  
 16 H4.4 Maps and trails -- there needs to be  
 17 detailed discussion and analysis with maps  
 18 showing any new trails, discuss the impact of  
 19 these new trails or relocation of existing  
 20 trails that would have on the environment.  
 21 H4.5 Next the ordinance, the arboretum  
 22 ordinance, spelling out the existing ordinance  
 23 entirely -- the draft EIS omits reference to  
 24 the prohibition on nonpark uses. The ordinance  
 25 reads in part, and I quote, "Nonpark uses shall  
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H4. Chuck Pearman

H4.1—Comment acknowledged.

H4.2—Please see revised text and tables in the final EIS.

H4.3—See the response to comment 5.2.

H4.4—See the response to comment 1.1.

H4.5—See the response to comment 2.4.

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 21

1 H4.6  
cont. include but not be limited to university  
2 classrooms, offices, laboratories, or  
3 administration buildings," unquote. In the  
4 history section discuss why this ordinance was  
5 passed, because of University of Washington's  
6 attempted land grab in the 1970's.

7 H4.6 Last, survey -- page 1 of the draft EIS  
8 says, and I quote, "There is increased  
9 visitation and significant interest in  
10 horticultural and environmental education."  
11 Would you please provide documentation and  
12 proof for this statement. For example, last  
13 summer I, along with several members of the  
14 Arboretum Park Preservation Coalition, obtained  
15 a park permit and spent five consecutive  
16 weekends talking to people in the arboretum  
17 about the revised greenprint plan. We talked  
18 to over 800 people. The vast majority,  
19 something like 80 percent, were not even aware  
20 of the proposed development in the arboretum.  
21 Once the plan was explained to them, nearly all  
22 were against new buildings, new parking lots,  
23 and generally against commercialization of our  
24 park. These people were not into botanical or  
25 horticultural experts, just ordinary citizens

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**H4.6**—See the response to comment 4.6 (in comment letters).

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 22

1 H4.6  
cont. who wanted to escape the city, escape the  
2 traffic, have a quiet walk in our arboretum.

3 H4.7 And finally, I talk about balance. The  
4 final master plan for the arboretum, whatever  
5 mix or match of the alternatives that are  
6 finally settled upon, should contain a clear  
7 and firm statement that first and foremost  
8 Washington Park a park. It's a park that  
9 contains an arboretum, where the balance  
10 between park and botanical is just about right.  
11 Any new master plan would be subject to those  
12 constraints.

13 In closing I note the irony of the  
14 greenprint plan, a plan that will destroy a  
15 significant portion of a natural environment in  
16 order to teach the importance of the natural  
17 environment. Thank you.

18 MR. GALT: Thank you Mr. Pearnan. Our  
19 next speaker is Nancy Knapp, followed by  
20 Charlie Chong, and Mary Thorne. Ms. Knapp.

21  
22  
23

24 \*Statement #5 STATEMENT OF NANCY KNAPP  
25 NANCY KNAPP: Does this go down? It's a

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**H4.7**—Comments acknowledged.

23

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 little bit high.

2 My name's Nancy Knapp, and I'm a member.

3 Of the Greater Madison Valley Community Council

4 and a member of the Arboretum Park Preservation

5 Coalition. But I'm going to speak tonight as

6 an individual because this is a very emotional

7 issue for me. Because of my great love for the

8 arboretum, I feel very strongly about the

9 things that might happen to it if the

10 recommendations made in the DEIS were adopted.

11 I was looking forward to reading a

12 scientific document when the DEIS came out, a

13 document that would present some of the range

14 of alternatives suggested by all of that

15 citizen input to which the master plan

16 proponents often refer. I was looking forward

17 to reading about the citizen alternative that

18 combines secure funding for increased

19 maintenance and offsite building for increased

20 facilities. Instead of science, I got

21 politics.

22 H5.1 As an undergraduate in philosophy, one of

23 the first things I learned was to make an

24 argument valid, one must define one's terms.

25 One of the terms repeatedly used in the DEIS is

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**H5. Nancy Knapp**

**H5.1**—Note that some of the conclusions as to the significance of impacts have been revised in the Final EIS. Please see the Major Conclusions, Areas of Controversy, and Issues to be Resolved section, and the Recreation and Aesthetics' sections in the Final EIS.

24

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H5.1 "significant." In section after section,

2 cont. adverse impacts are described on wildlife, on

3 native vegetation, on aesthetic properties, on

4 recreational usage, et cetera. The conclusion

5 is invariably that there will be no significant

6 impact. What is the definition of

7 "significant" in this document? Beats me.

8 H5.2 On page 15 of the DEIS, the authors refer

9 to the, quote, "character of Washington Park

10 Arboretum." And I quote from in the DEIS page

11 15, "The Washington Park Arboretum, after the

12 implementation of any of the alternatives under

13 consideration, will be similar in character to

14 the existing park, even though facilities such

15 as the Graham Visitors' Center will be

16 expanded" -- Not may or might be expanded,

17 "will be expanded" -- "New facilities such as

18 Madrona Terrace Educational Gateway Facility

19 will be constructed. Visitation will increase.

20 Existing native vegetation will be modified,

21 and scientific collections will be expanded."

22 With what do they -- this sentence turns

23 my head kind of a funny shape. What do they

24 imagine the character is, if it will remain

25 essentially the same, after all these changes

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**H5.2**—See the revised text in the Major Conclusions, Areas of Controversy, and Issues to Be Resolved section of the final EIS.

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 25

1 H5.3 have been made? Have the framers of this DEIS  
 2 really looked at Washington Park? Unbiased  
 3 objectivity is what science is all about. It  
 4 looks, it looks to me as though objectivity has  
 5 been tainted by input from the proponents of  
 6 the master plan who would have the character of  
 7 Washington Park changed more to their liking.  
 8 Next week, after I am hopefully over being  
 9 so emotional, I'll write a letter to -- what  
 10 was that saying? Times up? Okay. Next week  
 11 I'll write a letter to Pete Marshall. And I  
 12 just have one concluding sentence.  
 13 MR. GALT: Go ahead. You may.  
 14 NANCY KNAPP: I'd like to conclude with  
 15 H5.4 the same way that I concluded my talk at the  
 16 scoping meeting, and I quote, "Park  
 17 commissioners should consider themselves as  
 18 trustees for the people's parks, not as  
 19 trustees of some vacant land for any public  
 20 building." That was written by the Olmsted  
 21 brothers. I hope you'll listen.  
 22 MR. GALT: Thank you Ms. Knapp. Just as  
 23 a quick aside, when you see this stop sign go  
 24 up, you don't have to immediately stop in the  
 25 middle of a sentence. We're not that  
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H5.3—Comments acknowledged.

H5.4—Comments acknowledged.

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 26

1 draconian. But do try to wrap it up. If you  
 2 still have three or four pages to go, I'm  
 3 sorry, we can't wait for that.  
 4 Okay. Our next speaker is going to be  
 5 Charlie Chong, who'll followed by Mary Thorne  
 6 and then by Bob Newhouse. Mr. Chong.  
 7  
 8 STATEMENT BY CHARLIE CHONG  
 9 \*Statement H6 CHARLIE CHONG: Mr. Galt, gentlemen, my  
 10 name is Charlie Chong, C-H-A-R-L-I-E,  
 11 C-H-O-N-G.  
 12 My first comment is on our location here  
 13 for this hearing. I think you could get  
 14 H6.1 further away from the arboretum. You could  
 15 hold it in West Seattle. But I want you to  
 16 know that we in West Seattle do care about the  
 17 arboretum, and we do use it. We use it to show  
 18 people off the beauties of the arboretum and  
 19 the solitude sometimes and the tranquility. It  
 20 is a very valuable resource for our city.  
 21 I notice that this plan has taken out the  
 22 fences and admission charges that were in  
 23 earlier plans. That scares me. It scares me a  
 24 lot because I can predict. I can predict that  
 25 they will be back in a year or two years later.  
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H6. Charlie Chong

H6.1—Comment acknowledged.

27

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 asking for amendments to this plan to put in  
2 the fences and charge admissions. The Seattle  
3 Housing Authority does it all the time. Guess  
4 what? The City lets them do it. So to the  
5 people of this city, I would say watch out.  
6 You're going to have fences in the arboretum,  
7 and you're going to have admission charges.

8 This is basically a give away, a give away  
9 to the elitists, who will then be able to be  
10 the only ones who can afford to go to the  
11 arboretum. The judge earlier asked if this was  
12 a regional or neighborhood park. Let me advise  
13 him and you, this is a city park. This is a  
14 city park, not a neighborhood park, a city  
15 park. Not a regional park because the region  
16 doesn't pay for it. We do.

17 If the university wants to have a  
18 botanical garden, let them take their plants  
19 and their parking lots and their buildings and  
20 build them and plant them around the Center for  
21 Horticultural Studies. They've got room there.  
22 Leave our park for the people of Seattle.

23 I'm with the organization that wants to  
24 preserve this arboretum, and that's where I am.  
25 Thank you very much.

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 MR. GALT: Thank you, Mr. Chong. Our  
2 next speaker is Mary Thorne, who'll be followed  
3 by Bob Newhouse and then Doug Welti.  
4 Ms. Thorne.

5

6 \*Statement H7 STATEMENT OF MARY THORNE

7 MARY THORNE: I'm Mary Thorne,  
8 T-H-O-R-N-E; and you don't need your time sign.

9 H7.1 There's good news and bad news, and I'm  
10 the good news. I'm really pleased with the  
11 results of the EIS and feel it correctly  
12 characterizes the ideas and the goals put forth  
13 in the master plan. Thank you very much.

14 MR. GALT: Thank you, ma'am. I haven't  
15 said anything up to this point about applause,  
16 but this is really not that kind of a hearing.  
17 So if we could withhold it, I would appreciate  
18 it.

19 Our next speaker is Bob Newhouse, who will  
20 be followed by Doug Welti, and then Carol Ruth  
21 Gibson. Is that right? Am I close? Okay.  
22 We'll get it straightened out later.  
23

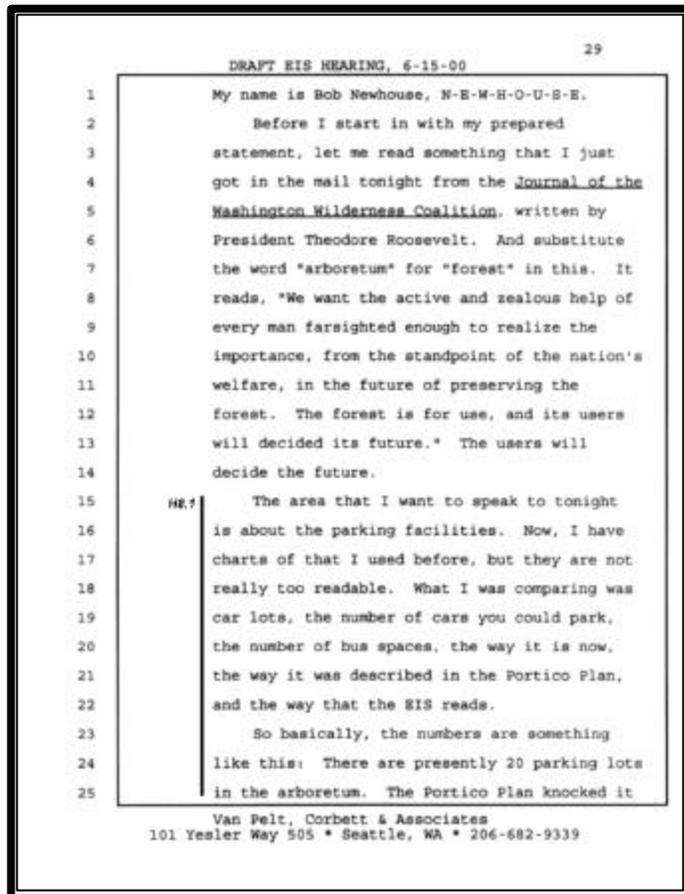
24 \*Statement H8 STATEMENT OF BOB NEWHOUSE

25 BOB NEWHOUSE: I've four minutes, right?

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**H7. Mary Thorne**

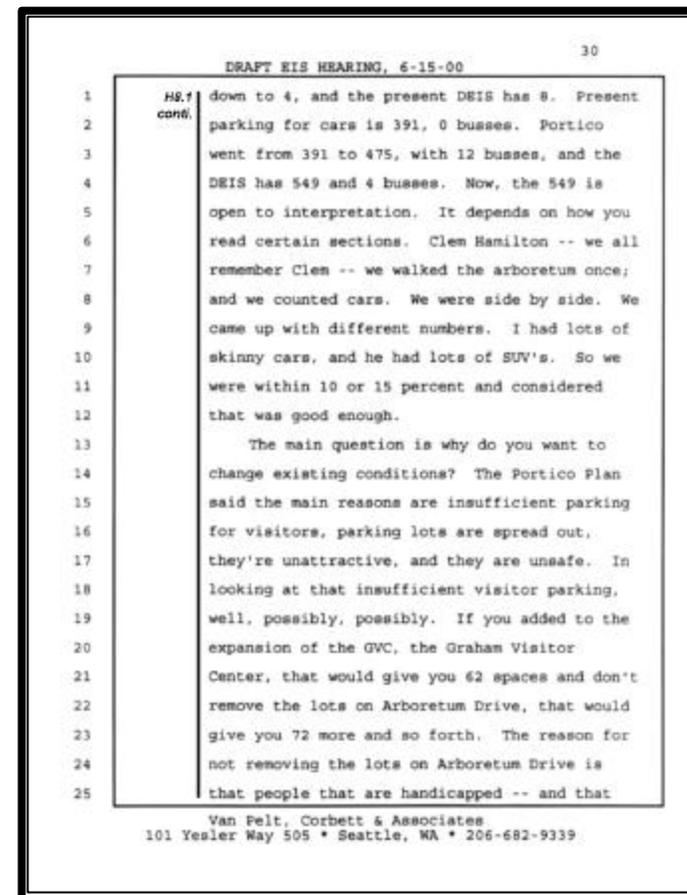
**H7.1—Comment acknowledged.**



### H8. Bob Newhouse

**H8.1**—The proposed master plan estimates certain sizes of structures and intensity of uses, which have been evaluated in the EIS on a conceptual level. The EIS does not attempt to determine whether more or less parking would be justified, but rather assesses the potential impacts of the master plan elements as proposed. The changes in the proposed parking configuration would require additional environmental review to determine the impacts at each phase of development under the plan. Because it is not anticipated that any parking would be removed before replacement parking is

constructed, it is expected that plan implementation would not result in adverse offsite impacts.



DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 31

1 H8.2 includes my wife in a wheelchair -- that's the  
2 only way they can utilize the arboretum. These  
3 parking lots are great. They are spread out,  
4 absolutely. They are spread out. Leave the  
5 parking lots alone.  
6 I'll give you or I'll send to Peter  
7 Marshall the actual rest of the text and the  
8 picture. I have pictures.  
9 MR. GALT: Thank you Mr. Newhouse. Our  
10 next speaker is Doug Welti, who'll be followed  
11 by Carol Gibson and then by Matt Fox.  
12 Mr. Welti?  
13  
14 \*Statement H9 STATEMENT BY DOUG WELTI  
15 DOUG WELTI: Thank you. Do you hear this  
16 now? Close enough. My name is Welti,  
17 W-E-L-T-I. You pronounced it correctly.  
18 I had prepared to talk about some broader  
19 issues tonight, but I understood we are  
20 supposed to direct our remarks to, directly to  
21 H9.1 the EIS. So I'll just take one little point,  
22 and that is safety, safety of the, and of  
23 persons and plants and so forth. Now the word  
24 is a buzz word. You just say word and you've  
25 got people on your side. You've got to have

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**H8.2**—Comment acknowledged.

**H9. Doug Welti**

**H9.1**—Comment acknowledged. The safety concerns that the master plan attempts to address were identified in the 1994 scoping document. The survey used in preparing that document indicated that users of the park were frequently concerned

about safety issues. This was particularly true of older women, who are also frequent park users.

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 32

1 H9.1 increased safety, right?  
2 conff  
3 But in this EIS nowhere does it come  
4 anywhere near describing a real problem. I  
5 live near the arboretum. I walked over there  
6 countless times by moonlight or even partial  
7 moon, rather dark, I have never seen anything  
8 that would suggest there is a problem. And if  
9 I were a woman, now, I would know not to walk  
10 in there by myself. There's no one hanging out  
11 in the arboretum waiting to waylay somebody at  
12 night. They'd have to sit there too long  
13 before they could find anybody.  
14 I think this is brought up in the, in the  
15 plan, just to get more support. Oh, we must  
16 have safety. We must have lights all around  
17 the arboretum and emergency call posts. Those  
18 lights will take away from the character of the  
19 arboretum. They will not do one thing to  
20 change safety that's there. How do you have  
21 beneficial effects, as they use the words  
22 there -- how do you have beneficial effect when  
23 there's no problem to begin with? The  
24 statistics they give for crimes committed  
25 there, really, now, look the them. If you take  
a look at each case you find more, more reasons

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33

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H10.1 I'm sure to not give them any, any credence.  
 2 conb. So what I'm saying tonight is that I think  
 3 this issue is brought up, as I've heard it  
 4 talked about at the various meetings,  
 5 supportive, people supportive of this as an  
 6 issue, it's come across the same way to me that  
 7 it's a thing to get people's attention, get  
 8 support. And there's no justification for it  
 9 in that document. Thank you.

10 MR. GALT: Thank you Mr. Weltl. Our next  
 11 speaker is Carol Gibson, who'll be followed by  
 12 Matt Fox, and then Joseph Marshall.

13

14 \*Statement H10 STATEMENT OF CAROL BETH GIBSON

15 CAROL BETH GIBSON: Hi, I'm Carol Beth  
 16 Gibson, C-A-R-O-L, B-E-T-H, G-I-B-S-O-N. Okay.  
 17 I've written my stuff so I'll just read it.

18 The plan springs from a remarkable list of  
 19 goals that are accepted uncritically in the  
 20 H10.1 EIS. As one who has worked in the schools for  
 21 27 years, I would like to comment on the K-12  
 22 education goals that seem to create a need for  
 23 classrooms. The goal is for 10,000 to 15,000  
 24 students to visit the arboretum per year. If  
 25 you go on the assumption there are 30 kids per

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**H10. Carol Beth Gibson**

**H10.1**—Please see the response to comment 2.1.

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H10.1 class, which is these days there are not --  
 2 conb. we're aiming for 20, actually, in the  
 3 elementary and lower grades -- but if you count  
 4 30 kids per class, that's 500 classes a year  
 5 that is the goal to visit the arboretum. And  
 6 I'm questioning that.

7 These days teachers have explicit  
 8 standards and curricular goals to meet.  
 9 Students are out of their core classrooms for  
 10 P.E. music, art, library, computer, recesses,  
 11 assemblies, and specialists such as poetry  
 12 teachers and art docents. The two nearby  
 13 schools, Montlake and McGilvra have a lovely  
 14 greenhouse and garden program, respectively.  
 15 Teachers are very pressed for time to meet  
 16 their 3-R goals while including all these  
 17 enriching activities. In a school, also, its'  
 18 just sort of a fact that schools budget one bus  
 19 field trip per year.

20 Therefore, my question is that I would  
 21 like to have addressed is, were teachers  
 22 actually polled to see how many would choose to  
 23 add a trip a to the arboretum to an already  
 24 full schedule, or is the educational goal meant  
 25 to justify in a socially acceptable way the

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35

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H10.1 removal of natural landscape for buildings and  
 2 cont. parking lots? Since my time's not up, I will  
 3 say that I think the new billboards an  
 4 abomination.

5 MR. GALT: Thank you Ms. Gibson. Our next  
 6 speaker will be Matt Fox, who'll be followed by  
 7 Joseph Marshall and then by Hilary Schiffrin.

8

9 \*Statement H11 STATEMENT BY MATTHEW FOX

10 MATT FOX: I guess I'll start. My name is  
 11 Matthew Fox, P-O-X.

12 I'm here on behalf of the University  
 13 District Community Council, and the University  
 14 District Community Council believes that  
 15 H11.1 citizens throughout Seattle and the entire  
 16 region will be best served by the no action  
 17 alternative proposed by the DEIS.

18 MR. GALT: Excuse me. Slow down.

19 MATT FOX: They say the road to hell is  
 20 paved with good intentions. I think in this  
 21 case, it's trees and plants will be paved for  
 22 parking lots. And we truly have a solution in  
 23 search of a problem. I think the backers of  
 24 this plan mean well, but they have not  
 25 demonstrated in any way, shape or form, the

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**H11. Matt Fox**

**H11.1**—The text of the final EIS has been changed with regard to this statement. Arboretum staff have indicated that few people can follow the taxonomic arrangement of the arboretum as it was intended, or understand why plants are placed as they are. People unable to follow the directions in brochures and the existing signs also frequently ask arboretum personnel

for help. With regard to the Olmsted plan, see additional text in the final EIS Historic and Cultural Resources section.

36

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H11.1 need for any of the major changes that have  
 2 cont. been proposed. And the DEIS needs to  
 3 critically analyze a number of the assertions  
 4 that have been made in justification of this.  
 5 I'll also be submitting these as written  
 6 comments at some point.

7 First off, the notion that we need to  
 8 change the current taxonomic organization of  
 9 the plant collection, there's one sentence in  
 10 there saying this is obscure to visitors. I,  
 11 as a visitor, have never had a problem with  
 12 that organization; and I think changing it  
 13 would also violate the original Olmsted plan  
 14 for the park.

15 H11.2 I must say in support of the DEIS that,  
 16 unlike the aquarium project, there really is a  
 17 no action alternative included; and I commend  
 18 the Parks Department for doing that. The EIS  
 19 does acknowledge that there are serious  
 20 negative impacts on traffic, air quality, and  
 21 other things in the proposed roadway changes.  
 22 It acknowledges that most bicyclists won't even  
 23 take the bike trail, if you build it, because  
 24 they prefer to ride on the street.

25 The only changes I think that are really

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**H11.2**—Comment acknowledged.

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1 H11.2  
contd. called for -- and I went and looked through all  
2 those changes today as I walked through the  
3 arboretum -- probably improved pedestrian  
4 crossing at East Lake Washington Boulevard and  
5 Foster Island Road where the traffic  
6 roundabouts proposed should be included. I hope  
7 you're thinking of other pedestrian crossing  
8 there included in the DEIS. And there probably  
9 should be one.

10 H11.4 Also measures to ensure the continued  
11 health of the plant collections really aren't  
12 specifically discussed. There is, again, the  
13 assertion that the plant collections are in  
14 terrible shape but no documentary evidence in  
15 the DEIS to demonstrate that.

16 H11.5 In regards to what serves the larger  
17 audience, I'm hearing frequently that people  
18 who don't like this plan are NIMBY's. Since I  
19 don't live by the arboretum, I don't consider  
20 myself to fall into that. I have to ask, if  
21 you've to 10 to 15,000 students a year proposed  
22 under this to come, which I think is a  
23 wonderful thing, how many visitors are there  
24 totally going to the arboretum? Most of them  
25 go for the natural spaces there now. And there

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**H11.3**—See the response to comment 8.4.

**H11.4**—Some of the general measures to ensure the health of the collections are listed in the proposed master plan (provided in Appendix A of the final EIS). The EIS is required under SEPA rules to list the proposal's objectives, but not to evaluate their validity.

**H11.5**—See the revised text in the Major Conclusions, Areas of Controversy, and Issues to Be Resolved section of the final EIS. As noted in the Recreation section of the EIS, no recent counts of visitors have been made. In 1990, an estimated 300,000 visitors used the park.

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 38

1 H11.5  
contd. is no figure that I could find in the DEIS of  
2 the total attendance annually to the arboretum.

3 H11.6 The current parking lots are unobtrusive  
4 and are permeable surfaces. The new, big  
5 parking lots proposed will be ugly and  
6 impermeable. Pedestrian overpasses likely  
7 won't be used, if the experience throughout the  
8 city with pedestrian overpasses is any  
9 indication. Tripling building space is  
10 entirely unacceptable. I don't understand why  
11 sidewalks are being proposed on Lake Washington  
12 Boulevard or Madison because there are already  
13 walking trails there. Given a choice between  
14 walking on a sidewalk or a park trail, I'll  
15 take the trail.

16 The fundamental issue of the arboretum  
17 should be to provide regionally accessible  
18 natural spaces in a crowded urban area, not to  
19 serve as a monument to the world-class ambition  
20 of this plan's sponsors. We look forward to  
21 commenting on the final EIS. But essentially  
22 the no action alternative is the way to go.

23 Thank you.

24 MR. GALT: Thank you, Mr. Fox. Our next  
25 speaker is Joseph Marshall, who will then be

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**H11.6**—  
Comment  
acknowledged.

39

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 followed by Hilary Schiffrin and Workinesh  
 2 Tianen. You can correct me on that when your  
 3 turn comes.  
 4

5 **Statement H12 STATEMENT OF JOSEPH H. MARSHALL**  
 6 **JOSEPH H. MARSHALL:** Good evening. I'm  
 7 Joseph Marshall, chair of the Arboretum Park  
 8 Preservation Coalition and chair of the  
 9 **H12.1** Montlake Arboretum Committee. But I speak  
 10 tonight in my capacity as chair of the  
 11 Arboretum, the Montlake Arboretum Committee.  
 12 The draft environmental impact statement  
 13 should contain a more thorough evaluation of  
 14 the scoping process, first of all, and a  
 15 detailed description of how the scoping  
 16 conclusions were arrived at, inclusion of the  
 17 leading questions which were posted on the  
 18 walls and the facilitators and the funding, and  
 19 who paid for the facilitators eliciting the  
 20 public commentary for the scoping meetings.  
 21 **H12.2** The draft environmental impact statement  
 22 should contain an analysis of tribes affected  
 23 and should give notice to the tribes. I don't  
 24 see the Suquamish Tribe or their representation  
 25 here tonight. Foster Island for one, there is

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**H12. Joseph Marshall**

**H12.1**—The EIS was developed following SEPA regulations. Please see the response to comment 2.7.

**H12.2**—Thank you for the comment. The final EIS contains additional discussion of historically significant elements in the park, including the issue you have raised. In addition, current city regulations would require further investigation of previous tribal use of the property prior to obtaining permits for construction on Foster Island. DCLU Directors' Rule 2-98 requires detailed information and notification of affected

agencies and tribes when exposure of archeological deposits is expected or occurs during construction.

40

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 **H12.2** historical evidence which, which arrives at  
 2 **cont.** this conclusion: Foster Island was a native  
 3 American historical ground. Now, while there  
 4 is limited construction proposed in the draft  
 5 environmental impact statement for the Foster  
 6 Island, it might be expected that that  
 7 construction, in what was a native American  
 8 burial ground, would require tribal  
 9 notification.  
 10 **H12.3** The documentation, as far as programs,  
 11 should be more thoroughly assessed. As far as  
 12 programmatic needs of the arboretum, the  
 13 regional needs should be compared to possible  
 14 uses and the increased visitation or rather at  
 15 the Preston Arboretum and arboretum proposed  
 16 for Carnation. We really need to see what sort  
 17 of visitation those will attract and how it  
 18 might affect Washington Park Arboretum. The  
 19 existing facilities at the University of  
 20 Washington and coordination with the University  
 21 of Washington Master Plan should be also taken  
 22 into account more thoroughly, as should be the  
 23 recreational use and quality. Recreational use  
 24 is described in the plan. It ought to be  
 25 quantified to a more thorough extent and

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**H12.3**—See the response to comments 3.21 and 2.1. The proposed master plan is not expected to alter available recreational opportunities significantly. The EIS discusses proposed educational program changes and expansion. These programmatic changes could affect informal activities such as walking, jogging, boating, and picnicking. Although the intent of the proposed plan is to spread programmed activities throughout the park to avoid crowding, some crowding could occur occasionally in popular areas,

which could inhibit informal recreation in those areas. Improved pathways and some other proposed amenities would also improve informal recreational opportunities. For example, barrier-free access would be provided in different areas of the park, and shelters, safety features, and restroom facilities would be provided. The proposed plan would reduce options for landing and launching boats by placing restrictions and new plantings where such activities are not desired.

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H12.3 subdivided into different recreational  
 2 contl categories.

3 H12.4 Finally, the Seattle school district  
 4 should be consulted, and there should be a  
 5 quantification of any possible increase in  
 6 visitation by classroom students. The  
 7 programmatic and curricular needs of the  
 8 Seattle school district ought to be more  
 9 H12.5 thoroughly addressed in the final plan. And  
 10 finally, the political statement of the  
 11 evening, which I cannot resist. I think  
 12 probably we would not place a McDonald's in  
 13 Pike Place Market. We would not, therefore,  
 14 build more buildings in Washington Park  
 15 Arboretum. Thank you.

16 MR. GALT: Thank you, Mr. Marshal. Let's  
 17 see. The next speaker is Hilary Schiffrin,  
 18 followed by Workenish Tianen and then by  
 19 Richard, who's representing the Japanese Garden  
 20 Advisory Council. I apologize. I can't read  
 21 your last name at all, sir. Hilary.

22

23 \*Statement H13 STATEMENT OF HILARY SCHIFFRIN  
 24 HILARY SCHIFFRIN: My name is Hilary  
 25 Schiffrin, S-C-H-I-F-F-R-I-N.

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**H12.4**—See the response to comment 2.1.

**H12.5**—Comment acknowledged.

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1 H13.1 And I'm a member of the Madison Park  
 2 Community Council, and the Madison Park  
 3 Community Council strongly supports the no  
 4 action alternative. Personally, as a former  
 5 teacher, myself, and one who's devoted a great  
 6 deal of time to and a great of deal of my life  
 7 to education, I'd like to refute the suggestion  
 8 by proponents of this plan that somehow to be  
 9 against this plan is to be against education.

10 As demonstrated in the original scoping  
 11 document, the vast majority of those people  
 12 using the arboretum, some 85 percent, are there  
 13 for reasons other than education. They are for  
 14 exercise, for recreation, and for peace. Those  
 15 using the arboretum for educational purposes  
 16 totalled only about 14 percent. Again, these  
 17 are numbers from the original scoping document  
 18 of the Portico Plan.

19 To turn the arboretum into an adjunct  
 20 campus of the University of Washington would be  
 21 to let a small minority dictate to the vast  
 22 majority how the arboretum, a garden, is to be  
 23 H13.2 enjoyed. The conclusion of the draft EIS that  
 24 the aesthetic impact will be nominal is belied  
 25 H13.3 by the amount of concrete and buildings that

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**H13. Hilary Schiffrin**

**H13.1**—Comment acknowledged.

**H13.2**—Please see the response to comment 1.3.

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1 H13.3 are proposed.  
cont.

2 Please let those who wish to be educated  
3 by the vast resources of the arboretum enjoy  
4 the park experientially and then take that  
5 experience back to their already existing  
6 classrooms in their already existing schools  
7 and community centers. We need no more new  
8 buildings in the arboretum. Thank you.

9 MR. GALT: Thank you, Ms.s Schiffrin.

10

11 \*Statement H14 STATEMENT OF WORKINESH TIANEN

12 H14.1 WORKINESH TIANEN: Good evening. My name  
13 is Workinesh Tianen, and I'll spell it,  
14 T-I-A-N-E-N. I'm not afraid to say I'm a  
15 Montlake resident. But if you want to check it  
16 out, I've lived in several neighborhoods before  
17 I moved to Montlake. I lived in University  
18 District. I lived in Lake City and also in  
19 Ballard. So at that time, you know, at the  
20 time I was living in those areas, University  
21 and Ballard, Washington Park Arboretum was even  
22 more dear to me because it was a place I could  
23 come and escape, you know, the hardscape of  
24 Ballard and University and all that. So the  
25 reason I'm involved and I'm mentioning this is

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H13.3—Comment acknowledged.

H14. Workinesh Tianen

H14.1—Comment acknowledged.

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1 H14.1 because I'm tired of being called NIMBY because  
cont. I live in Montlake.

2

3 I think the true reason why they're  
4 calling us that is because we are the eyes and  
5 ears of the people of Seattle. They tell us  
6 every day, please talk to them. This park is  
7 very important to us. It's important that it  
8 remains an open, public space, not a  
9 development site. And you haven't counted  
10 these people because you refuse to account for  
11 who they are. You're talking about the entire  
12 population of Seattle is really irate with this  
13 plan.

14 It's just that you cannot enumerate it and  
15 just keep telling us that visitors to Graham  
16 Visitors' Center are the only people who count.  
17 There are people -- for every one that visits  
18 Graham Visitors' Center, there are about, I  
19 would say, 20 people that come there without,  
20 you know, without being counted. So let's  
21 start counting these people and account for  
22 their concern.

23 They're frustrated. They're frustrated  
24 because we've been put through so many  
25 processes regarding this issue. And we're

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1 H14.1  
conf. being told, you know, let's go through this  
2 process. But what I'm missing from the process  
3 is that the last time I checked there, you  
4 know, there were so many people they tried to  
5 appeal to you to use the census. So nothing  
6 came in the DEIS to say what, you know, what  
7 the development is going to be. All we have is  
8 this is not, not, none of this development is  
9 going to be significant at all.  
10 So I think that it's time to start  
11 addressing the real issues instead of going  
12 H14.2 around, you know, around the issues. The main  
13 issue is we don't want any, any buildings and  
14 parking lots in the park. And there's a reason  
15 for it, because you haven't surveyed the people  
16 on how they feel about their park. I feel, you  
17 H14.3 know, we keep hearing it's a city park, and yet  
18 it's treated like it's not. The people do not  
19 have any input.  
20 The second one is you haven't told us how  
21 much it's going to cost you to build these  
22 buildings and parking lots. You haven't told  
23 us how much it is going to cost in lost open  
24 space to the public, because it will be a  
25 permanent loss. Where you put parking lots and

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**H14.2**—The proposed master plan was developed following a survey of park users contained in the 1994 report *Scoping Document for a New Master Plan for the Washington Park Arboretum*. This scoping document was adopted by resolution of the Seattle City Council for use in this planning process.

**H14.3**—See the response to comment 5.2.

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H14.3  
conf. buildings, there is no open space. And we're  
2 being asked to, you're asking us to tax  
3 ourselves again to buy even more land to  
4 preserve for the future. Why don't you  
5 preserve what you got before you come for more  
6 money to try be the, you know, the expensive  
7 land, you know, at the current value of the  
8 market.  
9 H14.4 My third thing is, you know, they said  
10 that it is not significant. What is  
11 significant is go to Madrona Terrace and feel,  
12 just imagine clearing a few trees from there.  
13 All you have to do is clear a few trees, and  
14 you will see the University of Washington.  
15 You'll see east Capitol Hill, the freeway  
16 bridge. All of those places are going to be  
17 visible. This is a very narrow park. It's  
18 very sensitive to any opening of views.  
19 You know, I saw it last year, what happens  
20 when they took a few trees, three of them. We  
21 started seeing the freeway itself, 520. We  
22 started seeing Laurelhurst, and we started  
23 seeing the university stadium. So it's a very  
24 sensitive park. It's very narrow and give us  
25 the dimension of the, the width of this park

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**H14.4**—See the response to comment 1.3.

**H15. Richard Pulkrabek**

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1 instead of the length of it. And I will stop.  
2 And I will tell my remarks to Peter Marshall.  
3 Thank you very much.  
4 MR. GALT: Thank you, Ms. Tienen. The  
5 next speaker is Richard?  
6 RICHARD PULKRABEK: Pulkrabek.  
7 MR. GALT: Pulkrabek, who will then be  
8 followed by Bruce McKinney, then Carol Weibel.  
9  
10 \*Statement#5 STATEMENT OF RICHARD PULKRABEK  
11 RICHARD PULKRABEK: My name Richard  
12 Pulkrabek, P-U-L-K-R-A-B-E-K.  
13 I'm a resident of Seattle. I live near  
14 University Village. I am also a member of the  
15 Japanese Garden Advisory Council, and it is on  
16 behalf of the advisory council and Japanese  
17 Garden that I speak tonight. We have reviewed  
18 the draft EIS and its assessment of the  
19 impacts, and the assessment of the impacts of  
20 the proposed master plan and the alternatives.  
21 Of primary importance to the us is the  
22 characterization of the two structures proposed  
23 for the Japanese garden, the pavilion at the  
24 north end of the pond and the gatehouse at the  
25 entry, and the stated impacts of those

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1 structures. The original conception of the  
2 Japanese garden you see today, the original  
3 plans from the 1960's, included a pavilion as a  
4 focal point of the north end of the garden. As  
5 a metaphor, it represents the house for which  
6 the garden would have been created. It is  
7 therefore a integral part of the overall  
8 design, providing the critical viewpoint from  
9 which the full beauty of the garden can be  
10 experienced. However in the 1960's when the  
11 garden was created, there was not enough money  
12 to complete the whole design. So construction  
13 of the pavilion was deferred.  
14 H15.1 In the current master plan the pavilion is  
15 presented as a new structure. But, in fact, it  
16 was always intended as part of the Japanese  
17 garden, even under original, the 1978 master  
18 plan. Realization of the pavilion is essential  
19 to completion of the design of the Japanese  
20 garden as it was envisioned 40 years ago. This  
21 cannot be stressed enough.  
22 H15.2 Secondly, the proposed gatehouse -- the  
23 draft EIS summary has the gatehouse expanding  
24 from 50 square feet to 1700 square feet. The  
25 dramatic expansion is misleading in that it

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**H15.1**—Please see the response to comment 20.1.

**H15.2**—See the response to comment 20.2.

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1 H15.2  
cont. undervalues the spatial functions of the  
2 existing entry. Even though the current  
3 assemblage of four structures, ticket booth,  
4 tool shed, and two porta-potties is woefully  
5 inadequate, the combined circulation between  
6 these structures, together with the group  
7 assembly space at the entrance to the garden,  
8 in actuality far exceeds 50 square feet.

9 H15.3 Further the draft EIS states that  
10 replacing the existing gatehouse may detract  
11 from the simplicity and purity of the entry.  
12 On the contrary, there is really nothing  
13 particularly authentic about the entry as it  
14 stands. In fact, what we have is in no way  
15 appropriate in either scale or design or  
16 function as an entrance to a Japanese garden.  
17 The existing entry has been cobbled together  
18 over the years out of necessity. For example,  
19 the ticket booth was fashioned out of a shed  
20 discarded from Seattle Center in 1980. The  
21 Porta-potties, a more recent addition, are, to  
22 put it mildly, an embarrassment. What we need  
23 is a new entry that truly represents the  
24 tradition of the Japanese garden and  
25 incorporates modern conveniences appropriate

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**H15.3**—See the response to comment 20.3.

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 50

1 H15.3  
cont. for a garden visited by thousands every year.  
2 There are also impacts outside the garden  
3 that we would like to comment on as well, such  
4 as the by-road scenery, pedestrian overpasses,  
5 traffic and pathways, and parking facilities.  
6 These we will submit in letter form at a later  
7 date. Thank you very much.

8 MR. GALT: Thank you, sir. The next  
9 speaker is Bruce McKinney, followed by Carol  
10 Weibel and then, does David Krauter want to  
11 speak?

12 DAVID KRAUTER: Yes.  
13 MR. GALT: Okay. You'll be third.  
14

15 \*Statement 16 STATEMENT OF BRUCE MCKINNEY

16 H16.1 BRUCE MCKINNEY: Most of my opposition to  
17 this EIS has already been stated by the others.  
18 So I'm going to concentrate on a few points.  
19 First, I'd like to echo the opposition to  
20 the Madrona Terrace buildings. This, to say  
21 that, that a building a parking lot of this  
22 size has no significance is, it's just not  
23 true. The trees that are there now would be,  
24 would have to be removed, many trees. The  
25 money that would be spent on the construction

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**H16. Bruce McKinney**

**H16.1**—Comment acknowledged.

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1 H16.1  
2 conn. of this building or any other building would be  
3 taken away. It wouldn't be available to be  
4 used for maintenance of the plant collection,  
5 which is the primary thing that needs to be  
6 done.

7 H16.2 Now, I can go on to many other points; but  
8 I want to make a minor point about the revision  
9 to the waterfront trail. There's a proposal to  
10 make that waterfront trail, which is a very  
11 popular trail, into a loop. And I think that's  
12 a wonderful idea. It's desirable; but as  
13 shown, it's completely unfeasible. They have  
14 that trail going under the freeway bridge at a  
15 point where there's about one-foot clearance,  
16 and they don't show -- it would be an  
17 engineering marvel to, to put that in as they  
18 show it. And they should have to explain how  
19 they want to do that. We pointed this out on  
20 the last plan, and it's still in there. So  
21 those are -- thank you.

22 MR. GALT: Thank you Mr. McKinney. Next  
23 speaker is Carol Weibel, followed by David  
24 Krauter, and then by Paul Bestock.

25 \*Statement #7 STATEMENT OF CAROL WEIBEL  
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**H16.2**—Your point regarding the trail is correct. The trail could be connected only if the area below the overpass is excavated below the level of the adjacent water, or by providing access up onto and across the overpass. One aspect of the proposed plan is reuse of the currently unused freeway ramp for pedestrian access to the park. The details of providing access to the overpass have not been developed.

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1 CAROL WEIBEL: Thank you. My name's Carol  
2 Weibel, M-E-I-B-E-L. I'm a member of the  
3 Arboretum Park Preservation Coalition, a  
4 Seattle resident for 30 years, a long-time  
5 member of the university community.

6 I'd like to start by quoting two of the  
7 previous speakers: First, Charlie Chong, who  
8 said "This is a give away to elitists;" and  
9 secondly, Ms. Thorne, who stated that "The EIS  
10 puts forth the plans and goals of the Master  
11 Plan." Now, I agree with both of those  
12 statements.

13 H17.1 I would like to point out to you that the  
14 financial aspects of the proposed Arboretum  
15 Master Plan which was published at the same  
16 time as the draft EIS, as we requested, and it  
17 states on the first page that "The Arboretum  
18 Foundation donated approximately \$600,00 for  
19 developing the Master Plan now being  
20 considered." And it is that master plan which  
21 is the preferred alternative as stated in the  
22 draft EIS. And I believe that the foundation's  
23 gift has really influenced what is described as  
24 the preferred plan and also has limited what  
25 has been described as the alternatives.

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**H17. Carol Weibel**

**H17.1**—The EIS is prepared according to SEPA rules, which require a description in the EIS of the proposal's goals. The role of the EIS is not to evaluate the validity of the goals or objectives, but to assess the potential impacts of the proposal that flows from them. Goals and objectives are also provided as a means of guiding the development of reasonable alternatives to the plan for comparative purposes. The alternatives used in the EIS must be ones that could "feasibly attain or approximate a

proposal's objectives, but at a lower environmental cost or decreased level of environmental degradation" [SMC 25.05.440D.2]. The EIS also includes the no-action alternative, under which the Washington Park Arboretum would continue following the 1978 master plan.

As a member of the ABGC, the Department of Parks and Recreation agreed upon the goals for the proposed master plan for the purposes of preparing the EIS. Based on the environmental and fiscal costs of the proposal, the city and the university may decide to approve or modify the goals or the proposal.

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 53

1 H17.1 I think that the draft EIS is fatally  
 2 conf. flawed by not presenting in a fair and  
 3 objective way the alternatives. The main  
 4 alternative is, of course, no more building, no  
 5 more pavement in the arboretum.

6 H17.2 In order to get there, what, the main  
 7 problem with this whole draft EIS is, starts on  
 8 page 1 where the purpose and need for the new  
 9 plan is described. And it starts out with two  
 10 points that we agree with. One, there has been  
 11 a limitation in the staffing and funding. And  
 12 this has resulted in inadequate care and  
 13 maintenance of the collection. But then from  
 14 there, from those perceived needs that nobody  
 15 is really arguing with, what has been developed  
 16 as this master plan preferred alternative is  
 17 this grandiose idea of developing this, this  
 18 Burchart Garden of Seattle with all kinds of  
 19 buildings and pavement that is going on cost 44  
 20 million dollars capital expense and 5.5 million  
 21 in annual expense.

22 And, again, I want to call your attention  
 23 to the financial analysis that came out with  
 24 this document that shows that, even under their  
 25 identified possible sources of funding, there

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**H17.2**—Comment acknowledged. Because the proposed master plan does not identify a budget or funding sources, it is not possible to estimate tax consequences precisely at this time.

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 54

1 H17.2 is an absence of 1.8 million per year in this  
 2 conf. new cost of maintenance. They don't know where  
 3 that's going come from.

4 H17.3 Finally, I would like to point out that  
 5 under the Graph 172-11-440, sub5, sub6, that  
 6 the direct authors of the EIS are supposed to  
 7 focus on what are the objectives and they're to  
 8 consider the benefits and the disadvantages of  
 9 reserving for some time in the future the  
 10 implementation of a proposal. The agency  
 11 prospective should be that each generation is,  
 12 in effect, a trustee of the environment for  
 13 succeeding generations. The park department  
 14 has an obligation to act in its fiduciary  
 15 responsibility to preserve the public park for  
 16 future generations. Thank you.

17 MR. GALT: Thank you, Ms. Weibel.

18 \*Statement H18: STATEMENT OF DAVID KRAUTER

19 DAVID KRAUTER: My name is Dave Krauter,  
 20 K-R-A-U-T-E-R.

21 H18.1 I'm the father of three small children,  
 22 and we often take walks in the arboretum. But  
 23 to get there we first have to cross a lot  
 24 streets, especially Washington Park Boulevard.  
 25 And as soon as we enter the arboretum, I can

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**H17.3**—See the response to comment 3.5.

**H18. David Krauter**

**H18.1**—The intent of the proposed master plan is to improve pedestrian street crossings. The number of additional vehicles generated by the proposed plan is

discussed in the Transportation section of the EIS. The number of parking areas (lots) would be reduced, while the number of parking stalls would increase. Safety issues in parking areas would be addressed at the time designs are developed. No additional areas would be permanently fenced off, although some areas may be off-limits during construction or renovation. Safety issues with regard to children crossing roads or parking areas would be essentially the same as those experienced in the park currently.

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 55

1 H19.1  
2 contd. relax because it's like trying to herd chickens  
3 to herd children across the street sometimes.  
4 They don't always do what they're told. But  
5 once you get into the arboretum, they don't  
6 have to listen to what you say any more.  
7 So my question is, what will be the impact  
8 on the experience of taking children to a park,  
9 letting them go, when you add more parking  
10 lots, more cars, more buildings, places where  
11 they can't go and they can't go and be free and  
12 not have to listen to what I have to say and  
13 not have to worry about getting backed over by  
14 a car in a parking lot. So that's my question,  
15 and that's all I have to say.  
16 MR. GALT: Thank you Mr. Krauter. Our  
17 next speaker is going to be Paul Bestock,  
18 who'll be followed by Sharon LeVine and then by  
19 Clarissa Easton. Mr. Bestock?  
20 \*Statement H19 STATEMENT BY PAUL BESTOCK  
21 PAUL BESTOCK: My name is Paul Bestock,  
22 B-E-S-T-O-C-K; and I am a neighbor and a member  
23 of the Washington Arboretum Foundation.  
24 I'd like to express my appreciation for  
25 all those people who have put in large numbers  
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**H19. Paul Bestock**

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1 of hours in terms of looking at the technical  
2 aspects exposing the inadequacies of the plan.  
3 I would like to speak as someone who's been  
4 walking in the arboretum since 1971, two or  
5 three a times week for 15 years, and over the  
6 last 10 years, three or four times a week.  
7 H19.1 And the notion that the construction will  
8 not add a significant impact on the nature of  
9 the arboretum is totally beyond my  
10 comprehension. I don't know what this means.  
11 I also appreciate the regional aspect of this  
12 park, even though it's a city park. We  
13 entertain countless numbers of guests from all  
14 over the region, all over the country; and in  
15 its existing nature, it is a statement of the  
16 regional nature of this environment. I'm  
17 especially proud of it and, again, can't  
18 imagine why anyone would want to meddle with it  
19 essentially.  
20 H19.2 The last thing that I wanted to state is  
21 I'm also an educator, and it is a mystery to me  
22 how you educate anyone by essentially  
23 destroying that which you're educating then  
24 about. It does not make sense. So I'm hoping  
25 that the emphasis in the next phases, the  
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**H19.1**—Please see the responses to comments 1.3 and 1.7.

**H19.2**—Comment acknowledged.

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H19.2 construction of buildings and parking lots will  
 2 cont. be shifted and money spent on the preservation  
 3 and maintenance of what already is, which is a  
 4 wonderful thing. Thank you very much.

5 MR. GALT: Thank you Mr. Bestock. The  
 6 next speaker is Sharon LaVine, followed by  
 7 Clarissa Easton, and who'll be followed by Tim  
 8 Hinkley or Hinchley. Ms. LeVine?

9

10 \*Statement H20 STATEMENT OF SHARON LeVINE

11 SHARON LeVINE: Actually, my name is  
 12 Sharon LeVine, L-E, capital V, I-N-E.

13 H20.1 This is the first meeting I've attended on  
 14 the arboretum, but I'm quite active in other  
 15 situations that pertain to parks. And I do  
 16 want to challenge the finding of no significant  
 17 impact on the preferred alternative of this  
 18 plan. It may not have been necessary ten years  
 19 ago or even five years ago, but things are  
 20 happening in the region that make it absolutely  
 21 imperative that now, when you do a EIS, that  
 22 you consider the cumulative impacts of what's  
 23 happening throughout the park system.

24 And that's the fatal flaw of this and any  
 25 one of these DEIS's is they look only at that

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**H20. Sharon  
 LeVine**

**H20.1**—Please see  
 the response to  
 comment 1.3.

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H20.1 park as if it's an entity unto itself. But I  
 2 woke the other morning trying to think where I  
 3 would go for a place of peaceful, contemplative  
 4 thought, where I could go for a tranquil  
 5 environment and a little bit of respite from  
 6 the incredible stresses of my life, and the  
 7 arboretum was one of the few places that I  
 8 could think of. And now it's being terribly  
 9 threatened.

10 What you have to look at is what's  
 11 happening throughout the region in our parks,  
 12 like the proposed people's lodge at Discovery  
 13 Park. And as Mr. Bounds knows, I've been real  
 14 active and concerned about what's happening in  
 15 virtually every residential neighborhood, as  
 16 play fields, neighborhood play fields, are  
 17 being converted to fulltime athletic facilities  
 18 that are going to be employed from morning  
 19 until night, late at night with lights and  
 20 artificial surfaces. This changes the  
 21 complexion and the texture of all of our  
 22 neighborhoods. And we certainly need a place  
 23 where we can go to really, you know, experience  
 24 some kind of contemplative, you know, tranquil  
 25 environment. We have it now. It's a public

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1 H20.1 park, and either the proposed alternative  
conf. should be explored a little bit further or the  
2 no action alternative seems to be the most  
3 reasonable.  
4  
5 As a former educator, again, I understand  
6 that you can educate in a building offsite and  
7 then, of course, come and experience the beauty  
8 and the nature of the museum, woody plant  
9 museum, that people have discussed earlier  
10 today. That's the way it should remain. There  
11 are incredible impacts in this city and our  
12 park system in general, and again this should  
13 be retained in the nature in which it is and  
14 developed, you know, so that people from around  
15 the region can, you know, enjoy it.  
16  
17 It doesn't need to be a place that is  
18 listed on all the tourist maps. It should be a  
19 place for the people that reside in the city of  
20 Seattle and for those who want to bring, maybe,  
21 an out-of-town relative on occasion, but it  
22 doesn't need to be a destination stop where we  
23 bus people in and, you know, give them that  
24 experience and detract from what it is that we  
25 should have.  
26  
27 So I'd like to again emphasize we should

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H20.1 explore the no action alternative and challenge  
conf. the no significant impacts statement because  
2 there are impacts on aesthetics, wildlife,  
3 recreation, traffic, and air quality, and the  
4 peaceful experience that we deserve.  
5  
6 Thank you.  
7  
8 MR. GALT: Thank you, Ms. LeVine. Next  
9 will be Clarissa Easton, who'll be followed by  
10 Tim Hinckley, and then by Dalmen Mayer.  
11  
12 \*Statement H21 STATEMENT BY CLARISSA EASTON  
13 CLARISSA EASTON: Thank you, gentlemen.  
14 My name is Clarissa Easton, E-A-S-T-O-N. I'm  
15 president of the Montlake Community Club, which  
16 is very supportive of the work that's being  
17 done now by the Arboretum Park Preservation  
18 Council.  
19  
20 H21.1 We recommend the no action direction in  
21 the draft EIS. And I wanted to tell you that  
22 many Montlake residents have asked that you  
23 seriously rethink the true impact of additional  
24 facilities on site, the increased organized  
25 usage, and seriously reconfigured parking and  
26 traffic patterns. I want tell you that many  
27 Montlake residents have expressed serious

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**H21. Clarissa Easton**

**H21.1**—Please see revised text in the final EIS regarding the significance of aesthetic impacts and other impacts.

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1 H21.1 concern with the draft EIS findings that  
 2 cont'd. consistently stated that there are no  
 3 significant impacts resulting from increased  
 4 promotion of commercial and educational use in  
 5 the arboretum.  
 6 My neighborhood urges you to leave the  
 7 Washington Park Arboretum as a green refuge  
 8 from city life. We feel it's very significant  
 9 as it currently exists, without the serious  
 10 impacts proposed in this draft EIS. Thanks  
 11 very much.  
 12 MR. GALT: Thank you. Our next speaker is  
 13 Tim Hinkley, who will be followed by Dalsen  
 14 Mayer and then by Roger Lorenzen.  
 15 \*Statement H22 STATEMENT BY TOM HINCKLEY  
 16 TOM HINCKLEY: My name is Tom Hinkley,  
 17 H-I-N-C-K-L-E-Y.  
 18 To comment on the draft EIS, it's critical  
 19 to place the document into context. The  
 20 context depends upon three elements: Time, the  
 21 master plan, and the document itself. I will  
 22 use three points of time to develop this  
 23 context.  
 24 Past -- in 1967 I was a new graduate  
 25 student from Pennsylvania at the University of  
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H22. Tom Hinkley

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1 H22.1 Washington. I learned of a protest march held  
 2 at the Washington Park Arboretum against the  
 3 construction of the proposed R. H. Thompson  
 4 freeway. Because of my familiarity with the  
 5 Arnold Arboretum, the National Arboretum, I  
 6 recognized the unique value of arboreta and  
 7 therefore I became involved in the protest, my  
 8 first. An arboretum is more than a park or a  
 9 green space. I recognized then the unique  
 10 roles that arboreta play in conservation and  
 11 education. The master plan similarly  
 12 recognizes these roles. The draft EIS reveals  
 13 no compelling reason in these two areas not to  
 14 support the master plan.  
 15 Present -- ever winter quarter for the  
 16 past ten years, I have taken the students of  
 17 ESC-202 to Washington Park Arboretum. We go  
 18 for an entire afternoon twice during the  
 19 quarter. Two important points or lessons  
 20 emerge from this use of the arboretum. First,  
 21 as a teacher at the University of Washington, I  
 22 value this outdoor classroom. I cannot  
 23 illustrate within a structured classroom many  
 24 of the principles I teach. The resources of  
 25 the arboretum can. Some of the most positive  
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H22.1—Comment acknowledged.

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1 H22.1  
cont. experiences in comments I received about the  
2 course are about these out-of-classroom  
3 experiences. Quotes from third graders from  
4 Mercer Island and Seattle public school systems  
5 parallel those from my students.  
6  
7 I would point out that a classroom is a  
8 terrible place to teach students, young or old,  
9 about ecosystems. Teachers from local  
10 elementary schools -- and there's a list in the  
11 documents I'll provide -- are impressed because  
12 the material provided by the staff at the  
13 arboretum is developed to match the Washington  
14 State Essential Learning Requirements. The  
15 master plan recognizes the value of  
16 experiential learning and what the Washington  
17 Park Arboretum can bring to the regions 8th  
18 through 20 student. The draft EIS finds no  
19 significant environmental problem associated  
20 with the expanded educational role proposed in  
21 the master plan.  
22 H22.3 Second, over 11 years of visiting the same  
23 parts of the Washington Park Arboretum, I have  
24 witnessed positive and negative changes. The  
25 addition of the winter garden is positive. The  
natural decline and death of 70-year-old red

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**H22.2**—The final EIS acknowledges that some impacts of the preferred plan would be viewed as significant adverse impacts in the areas of aesthetics and transportation.

**H22.3**—Comment acknowledged.

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1 H22.3  
cont. alder trees on the border between the marsh and  
2 upland part of Foster Island, the replacement  
3 of these trees with exotic plants, including  
4 Himalayan blackberries, represents a negative.  
5 Because of the history of the Washington Park  
6 Arboretum, stands of trees established in the  
7 20's and 30's are reaching points where  
8 increasing maintenance will be necessary in  
9 order to preserve the arboretum's character.  
10 The master plan addresses the needs for the  
11 increased maintenance and the draft EIS finds  
12 no environmental problems associated with this.  
13  
14 Future -- the master plan crafts a  
15 balanced vision for the future of the  
16 Washington Park Arboretum in which the  
17 conservational, education, and recreational  
18 opportunities are anticipated and planned for  
19 in a very deliberate fashion. The master plan  
20 represents a vision for the next 30 years, a  
21 plan built upon the original 1934 partnership  
22 between the University of Washington and the  
23 City of Seattle. Twice-logged land in the  
24 Olmsted plan was crafted in to an arboretum and  
25 a park. The Washington Park Arboretum has  
served the City and the University well. The

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 65

1 H22.2 master plan provides a deliberate approach to  
 2 conti the future of this wonderful resource. Thank  
 3 you.  
 4 MR. GALT: Thank you, Mr. Hinckley. The  
 5 next speaker is Dalmen Mayer, who will then be  
 6 followed by Roger Lorenzen and by Rox Barnett.  
 7  
 8 \*Statement H23 STATEMENT OF DALMEN MAYER  
 9 DALMEN MAYER: My name's Dalmen Mayer,  
 10 D-A-L-M-E-N, Mayer, M-A-Y-E-R.  
 11 H23.1 The most astonishing environmental impact  
 12 in this cockasanie scheme is its total  
 13 cluelessness regarding the Washington Park  
 14 Creek. The drainage basin which extends to  
 15 Yesler -- the drainage beyond is into the  
 16 Duwamish river and Elliott Bay. The creek  
 17 tellingly but incorrectly called Arboretum  
 18 Creek in the plan, was an all-year stream  
 19 running northbound along Martin Luther King Way  
 20 to Lake Union, zigzagging north from the still  
 21 visible stands of popular trees to near Martin  
 22 Luther King School, where there is a waterfall,  
 23 to one of the ends of the Washington Park play  
 24 field.  
 25 And 20 percent of the stream's flow that

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### H23. Dalmen Mayer

H23.1—The description offered essentially concurs with the description in the EIS, except that the EIS notes that approximately 56% of the runoff area in the natural watershed has been diverted to the city storm drain. Thank you for your description of watershed conditions outside the current drainage area.

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 66

1 H23.1 is not diverted to the Seattle sewer system,  
 2 conti flows into the Japanese Garden, thence through,  
 3 under the aqueduct into Lake Washington. This  
 4 immense watershed is plainly bordered by Yesler  
 5 Way east on the Sound. There is a relatively  
 6 steep slope on the east to the divide at 34th  
 7 Avenue running north, including the Bush School  
 8 area. On the west it is immense: North from  
 9 Yesler Way at 16th Avenue and 17th almost to  
 10 Group Health, et cetera.  
 11 Washington Park Creek, is officially part  
 12 of the Lake Washington watershed, WRI No. 8.  
 13 H23.2 It is designated in the salmon recovery act.  
 14 H23.3 Thornton Creek is another such creek that can  
 15 be referenced on the urban watersheds website.  
 16 The plan calls to daylight the creek. This is  
 17 another preposterous cosmetic project  
 18 reminiscent of a bygone era, which the plan  
 19 represents in numerous other instances. It is  
 20 totally clueless to biodiversity but devilishly  
 21 intent on teaching us some evolutionary  
 22 biology.  
 23 H23.4 P.S. I thought the University of  
 24 Washington was being supported by the state to  
 25 teach matriculated students, not ordinary

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H23.2—The speaker may be referring to the Tri-County Salmon Recovery Plan. Arboretum Creek may be considered for salmon recovery purposes, but because of the limited flow in summer months and other factors, it is not a strong candidate for funding as a salmon habitat restoration area under that plan.

The proposal would increase streamflows in the creek by reconnecting storm sewers south of the park to the stream. This would be accomplished only if water quality and other stream dynamics can be addressed.

H23.3—Comment acknowledged.

H23.4—See the response to comment 23.1.

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H23.5 citizens. If Washington Park is to be properly  
 2 restored, as it seems it inevitably will be  
 3 given the King County response to the salmon  
 4 recovery act, move under the aqueduct must be  
 5 removed. The last mile of it to its present  
 6 terminus at 23rd Avenue seems a small sacrifice  
 7 for recovery of the salmon.

8 The present plan would have us fill in the  
 9 flow in the directions of traffic. But  
 10 inevitably the road must go, simply because the  
 11 stream can be so easily restored to its natural  
 12 wonder with spawning salmon. One creek on Lake  
 13 Washington has got such salmon in only a  
 14 500-foot stretch restored at the mouth.

15 It's a full mile from the Japanese Garden  
 16 to Lake Washington. Washington Park Creek  
 17 represents a an environmental impact that has  
 18 in fact become protected under the salmon  
 19 recovery act, passed long after the present  
 20 plan was hatched by unknown horticultural  
 21 geniuses and providential benefactors. The  
 22 present plan would physically rip out and  
 23 reorganize one of the greatest treasures of  
 24 Seattle, a treasure that presently belongs 50  
 25 percent to the Seattle Parks Department. And

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H23.5—Comment  
 acknowledged.

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1 H23.6 turning it into a tourist trap is crime, shame,  
 2 contd and this cockamamie scheme to educate  
 3 out-of-towners and students of the Seattle  
 4 public schools, which institution is already  
 5 being paid to educate the student population of  
 6 Seattle. by the way, an idea that would destroy  
 7 the biodiversity that the arboretum has  
 8 presently got in rare abundance. The plan's  
 9 target population is tourists who are footwear  
 10 impaired or otherwise unable to get around  
 11 easily and represents hubris found on a scale  
 12 found frequently in Seattle.

13 MR. GALT: Time's up, Mr. Mayer.

14 DALMEN MAYER: Thanks.

15 MR. GALT: Let's take about a three to  
 16 five minute break in place, though. If you  
 17 haven't spoken yet, please don't leave because  
 18 we want to keep it going.

19 [Brief recess.]

20 MR. GALT: Please take your seats. Will  
 21 Roger Lorenzen come forward, please, to give  
 22 his testimony. Thank you, Mr. Lorenzen. I  
 23 will remind you that Mr. Lorenzen is going to  
 24 be followed by Rox Barnett, who'll be followed  
 25 by Arthur Grey. Mr. Lorenzen.

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1  
2 \*Statement H24 STATEMENT OF ROGER LORENZEN  
3 ROGER LORENZEN: My name is Roger  
4 Lorenzen, L-O-R-E-N-Z-E-N.  
5 H24.1 I'm an arboretum member and have been for,  
6 oh, six, eight years and intend to be for the  
7 rest of my life. I think the EIS should be  
8 accepted in full the way it is written. And I  
9 think the option to do nothing is an absurd  
10 option; and assuming that Seattle grows at the  
11 present rate that it has in our lifetime in  
12 Seattle, considering doing no additional  
13 upgrades to our beautiful arboretum is not  
14 logical nor reasonable.  
15 I feel that the land grab that was, that  
16 was vocalized earlier is actually the opposite  
17 of the way it was described, that many of the  
18 immediate neighbors feel that, as it's their  
19 backyard, they have a more dramatic input on  
20 how Seattle, one of Seattle's most majestic  
21 parks should interact with their immediate  
22 neighborhood when, in fact, it belongs to the  
23 entire city and the environment throughout.  
24 H24.2 I think the EIS should perhaps ask various  
25 garden clubs -- I'm member of numerous -- if  
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**H24. Roger Lorenzen**

**H24.1**—Please note that the no-action alternative is defined as following the existing (1978) master plan, which also calls for upgrading some of the exhibits.

**H24.2**—The master plan process has included meetings with many garden clubs, who provided comments similar to those you offer here. The proposed master plan was developed, in part, in response to this information.

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1 H24.2  
2 contl there is adequate facilities for garden clubs,  
3 for Seattle members, to participate in their  
4 various activities. I know, as a group leader  
5 for a garden club within the arboretum, that we  
6 literally have lost space within our own  
7 arboretum to carry on our own meetings due to  
8 lack of space. The few small buildings that  
9 are suggested for the arboretum are necessary  
10 and needed and would be tremendously utilized  
11 by the people of Seattle and should be  
12 considered in full the way they are described  
13 within the master plan. Thank you.  
14 MR. GALT: Thank you, Mr. Lorenzen. Our  
15 next speaker is Roz Barnett, to be followed  
16 by Arthur Grey, who will be followed by Rolande  
17 Chesebro.  
18 \*Statement H25 STATEMENT OF ROZ BARNETT  
19 ROZ BARNETT: Hi, I'm Roz, Rosie, Barnett,  
20 B-A-R-N-E-T-T.  
21 H25.1 I want to say few a words about education.  
22 A lot of people have used the word. I think we  
23 need to define it a little bit. I've been an  
24 art teacher in Seattle for almost 30 years; and  
25 it's very clear to me that there is a part of  
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**H25. Rosie Barnett**

**H25.1**—Comment acknowledged.

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1 H25.1 each of us which does not need education, a  
2 conf. part which cries out not to be forced to  
3 compare and contrast, to make distinctions, to  
4 categorize. This is a wild park which fuels  
5 our creativity and our individuality, and that  
6 is why we need corresponding wildness in our  
7 world.  
8  
9 It is far more instructive to wander  
10 outside the lines in a park that is  
11 approximates wilderness, like the arboretum,  
12 than to be reined in and taught at. We need to  
13 cultivate the imagination of our children. We  
14 need a place, as David Krauter, who is a great  
15 father, said to let our children just be, to  
16 allow them not to have to listen to us, to let  
17 them be safe without fencing them in, to follow  
18 their own agendas, that is, to learn in a more  
19 porous environment, an environment in which  
20 they are really interacting with the world by  
21 their own lights. This is absolutely critical.  
22 I'm not saying that if the arboretum is  
23 changed, there will be outbreaks of violence in  
24 Seattle, but our entire society right now is at  
25 loss to explain why there is so much violence,  
why the children are going without empathy for  
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1 H25.1 other human beings. And I believe deeply that  
2 conf. if we deprive ourselves of wild space, of open  
3 space of no agendas, we are depriving ourselves  
4 of knowing who we are. And when we know who we  
5 are, we know who other people are. We are far  
6 more kind and civilized to each other. So it's  
7 a very, very big issue. Thank you.  
8  
9 MR. GALT: Thank you, Mr. Barnett. The  
10 next speaker is Arthur Grey, who'll be followed  
11 by Rolande Chesebro, who'll be followed by  
12 Johnathon Dubman.  
13  
14 \*Statement H25 STATEMENT OF ARTHUR GREY  
15 ARTHUR GREY: I am Arthur Grey, spelled  
16 G-R-E-Y.  
17 H25.1 I guess my thoughts are mainly directed at  
18 the quote, "scoping," close quote. What  
19 perturbs me, therefore, about this arboretum  
20 issue is two-fold: One, there is the wholly  
21 unwarranted intrusion of proposed new  
22 site-consuming development within a dedicated  
23 and highly valued naturalistic space and, two,  
24 Washington Park and the arboretum is part of a  
25 much larger and vital picture which is once  
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**H26. Arthur Grey**

**H26.1**—Please see the final EIS for a revised discussion of impacts on historic resources, including the Olmsted Brothers plan.

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 73

1 H26.1 again being disregarded, I mean the Olmsted  
 2 conf. park and boulevard plan for the City of  
 3 Seattle, going back to the beginning of the  
 4 century. Myopia about the association of one  
 5 and two is a big part of the issue here I  
 6 think. I see as most unfortunate anything that  
 7 devalues this bond.

8 H26.2 More about the first of these, internal  
 9 development -- it seems so unsynchronized to  
 10 the established nature of Washington Park, in  
 11 the very limited area with which to maintain  
 12 its character. I agree the sponsors have  
 13 utterly failed to show why their development  
 14 project is, A, consistent with the original  
 15 agreement for university use of the arboretum,  
 16 and, B, it is utterly undemonstrated that the  
 17 university proposal in its aggregate provide  
 18 any kind of social benefit comparable to the  
 19 havoc being created.

20 Others have expressed, many expressed  
 21 these views more completely, eloquently than I  
 22 have, and I want to pass on to the second  
 23 point. Over the years, the various divergent  
 24 objectives have fed like piranhas tearing into  
 25 the corpus of the Olmsted system. Let me

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H26.2—Comment  
 acknowledged.

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1 H26.2 illustrate. I shall note only some instances  
 2 conf. in the east central part of the plan nearest to  
 3 Lake Washington Park. The chronology of so  
 4 many of these acts of paring away from the  
 5 beauty of the system began with the university,  
 6 which at one time was traversed by the original  
 7 Olmsted layout, extending from Lake Washington  
 8 Boulevard.

9 John Olmsted, the chief designer of the  
 10 plan made a prophetic statement almost 100  
 11 years ago in 1903. "It would be utterly  
 12 unbusinesslike," he said, "for the city to  
 13 trust merely to the goodwill and cordial  
 14 cooperation of future university officials,"  
 15 unquote. We can see what the freeways have  
 16 done; and I would say that if the proposers  
 17 want to do something, let them wait until the  
 18 northern part of Washington Park can be  
 19 reunited with the main body. Let them work to  
 20 place a lid over 520. Let them create a space  
 21 which can accommodate these new activities in a  
 22 location nearer to the flow of traffic. Thank  
 23 you.

24 MR. GALT: Thank you, Mr. Gray. Next is  
 25 Rolande Chesebro, followed by Johnathon Dubsan,

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1 who'll be followed by Ted Holliger.  
2

3 \*Statement H27 STATEMENT OF ROLANDE CHESEBRO  
4 H27.1 ROLANDE CHESEBRO: Throughout my  
5 involvement in listening to the original plan  
6 and now this, I'm really -- and I'm very struck  
7 in the environment impact statement -- of how  
8 uncreative our responses to these problems seem  
9 to be and how we don't seem to be looking at  
10 past mistakes we've made in terms of  
11 overdevelopment solutions to quote/unquote  
12 problems. It's just astounding to me.  
13 I'd like to focus, just make a personal  
14 comment on the teaching aspect and the need for  
15 classrooms. I am one of the two mothers who  
16 developed the garden program at McGilvra and  
17 worked with the kids gardening and, in fact,  
18 took many field trips to the arboretum with the  
19 children and, in fact, availed ourselves of a  
20 very nice program, simple program, that the  
21 arboretum has in place for taking kids on field  
22 trips. There are four different programs that  
23 are -- one's focused on the swamps and one's  
24 focused on the forests -- and there are very  
25 simple, very wonderful programs that could be

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**H27. Rolande Chesebro**

**H27.1**—Comment acknowledged.

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1 H27.1 developed.  
2 cont.  
3 To me, it's absurdly complicated to think  
4 of transporting students from all over Seattle  
5 from classrooms into another classroom. It  
6 seems obvious that the arboretum staff could  
7 come into classrooms where the kids are already  
8 located and do any kind of preparatory  
9 education and projects with them. And then the  
10 big attraction of the arboretum is the  
11 arboretum, and I agree very strongly with  
12 everyone that says we would destroy that which,  
13 that which we're going to study and supposedly  
14 which we're trying to create a sense of  
15 understanding and value in these kids. And how  
16 we're doing it is to destroy, develop a big  
17 chunk of it. It just boggles my mind. It  
18 seems so ridiculous. Anyway, thank you.  
19 MR. GALT: Would you spell your last name  
20 for the court reporter, please.  
21 ROLANDE CHESEBRO: C-H-E-S-E-B-R-O. Thank  
22 you.  
23 MR. GALT: Thank you. The next speaker is  
24 Johnathon Dubman, followed by Ted Holliger and  
25 then Penny Lewis. Mr. Dubman.

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1 \*Statement H20 STATEMENT OF JOHNATHAN DUBMAN  
 2 JOHNATHAN DUBMAN: My name is Johnathan  
 3 Dubman, D-U-B-M-A-N. I'll submit this in  
 4 written form as well.  
 5 H20.1 And I'm a resident of the Montlake  
 6 neighborhood, though I have been a frequent  
 7 visitor to the arboretum for many more years  
 8 than I've lived near it. I've commuted through  
 9 it, paddled through it, explored it, and walked  
 10 through many times. It's a treasure and  
 11 special place and continuing discovery for me  
 12 and many others I have brought with me. I  
 13 approve of efforts to maintain a delicate  
 14 balance of uses in the arboretum, including  
 15 scientific research as well as recreation. I  
 16 approve in principle bike paths parallel to  
 17 Lake Washington Boulevard, the completion of  
 18 the Foster Island trail from Mohai under 520  
 19 and reuse of the unused 520 ramps for  
 20 pedestrians and bikes.  
 21 Unfortunately, there are elements of the  
 22 proposed master plan that are not only  
 23 expensive and unnecessary, but actually hinder  
 24 the use of the park for both recreation and  
 25 science. These include paving over more of the

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## H28. Johnathan Dubman

**H28.1**—Please see revised text in the final EIS regarding transportation and aesthetic impacts.

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1 H20.1 park for cars and constructing showpiece  
 2 cont. buildings, which, both of which would,  
 3 ironically, substantially detract from the very  
 4 things that make the arboretum worth visiting  
 5 and worth preserving. I object to the increase  
 6 in the number of parking spaces. Although the  
 7 lots may fill up for a few hours in the middle  
 8 of the day, on sunny weekends in the peak of  
 9 summer, most of the time many of the spaces are  
 10 unused. To the extent that the lots do fill up  
 11 now, increasing parking would reduce the  
 12 incentive for arboretum visitors to walk, bike,  
 13 or take public transit. And most importantly,  
 14 the more we pave the park, the less park we  
 15 have to visit. It means less space for  
 16 botanical specimens. Less space for  
 17 recreation.  
 18 The arboretum already suffers from being  
 19 bisected by a major freeway and a major  
 20 arterial. Cars are too visible a presence as  
 21 it stands, and I object to any action that  
 22 invites more of them.  
 23 I object to expanded meeting facilities  
 24 and office space at Graham Visitor Center.  
 25 There are better ways to accommodate the

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1 **H28.2** arboretum's needs. The Museum of History and  
2 Industry will soon be moving downtown, leaving  
3 only its archives in the current building.  
4 This will free up a substantial amount of room  
5 in a fine building adjacent to the arboretum.  
6 While the site is under consideration for use  
7 as the new location for the expanded Montlake  
8 Branch Library, it is far from guaranteed that  
9 location will be chosen; and even allocating  
10 5,000 square feet for that, there is still  
11 plenty of room left over that could be used for  
12 arboretum offices and meeting space.

13 **H28.3** But the most shockingly objectionable part  
14 of the plan is the Madrona Terrace development,  
15 which would destroy a serene area of the park  
16 and replace it with a 60-car parking lot and  
17 sprawling educational center. A 60-car parking  
18 lot and educational center exist today, right  
19 next to the Foster Island trail in the Mohai  
20 Building which could surely be remodeled in a  
21 fitting way for a small fraction of the cost of  
22 constructing the Madrona Terrace facility. It  
23 is folly to spend millions of dollars  
24 constructing a redundant building that replaced  
25 what it is trying to teach about. Thank you.

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**H28.2**—See the response to comment 9.4.

**H28.3**—Comment acknowledged.

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 80

1 MR. GALT: Thank you, Mr. Dubman.  
2 Next is Ted Holliger, who'll be followed  
3 by Penny Lewis, who'll be followed by Gretchen  
4 Lambert.  
5  
6 STATEMENT OF TED HOLLIGER  
7 TED HOLLIGER: I am Ted Holliger,  
8 H-O-L-L-I-G-E-R.  
9 And I'm here to defer to all of the  
10 beautiful reasoning, et cetera, that has taken  
11 place in favor of the no action alternative on  
12 this plan. And I'm just sort of left with a  
13 totally self-serving statement which is leave  
14 my park alone, fellows. I know, I know a lot  
15 of folks around need a place to go. We don't  
16 need any more pavement or any more buildings.  
17 Thank you.  
18 MR. GALT: Thank you, Mr. Holliger.  
19 Next is Penny Lewis, who'll then be  
20 followed by Gretchen Lambert, followed by  
21 Charles Lambert.  
22  
23 \*Statement #29 STATEMENT BY PENNY LEWIS  
24 PENNY LEWIS: My name is Penny Lewis. The  
25 last name's spelled L-E-W-I-S.

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

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1 H29.1 I come here as a citizen who's lived in  
 2 Seattle for more than 25 years, and most those  
 3 years were lived in Madison Park. The  
 4 arboretum was my local park. You can look at  
 5 my family album and see pictures of soccer  
 6 games witnessed there. You can see pictures of  
 7 girl scout troops visiting the Japanese garden,  
 8 my family portraits taken sitting on the  
 9 stairway in the middle of the park. And I  
 10 still spend almost every Sunday morning walking  
 11 through the arboretum. It's an important place  
 12 to me, for peace, for understanding, for just a  
 13 place to get away.

14 What I've learned in the last few years is  
 15 what a treasure it is. I had no idea what was  
 16 available to many people, besides just the  
 17 citizens of Seattle. The knowledge that's been  
 18 gained over the many years of plants being kept  
 19 track of, the many plants from all over the  
 20 world, and the whole sense of what is available  
 21 in looking at something and saying, yes, that  
 22 will fit my yard or, no, it won't because it's  
 23 too big or it grows here and it grows in Chile,  
 24 too, isn't that exciting, things like that that  
 25 a normal person can really appreciate. Many of

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**H29. Penny Lewis**

**H29.1**—Comment  
 acknowledged.

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1 H29.1  
 2 cont. those things are not available to the common,  
 3 ordinary person walking through the arboretum.  
 4 Yes, it needs to be preserved. If we  
 5 leave it the way it is and do nothing, no  
 6 action, the trees that get old and die, just  
 7 like humans get old and die, will do just that.  
 8 It needs to be replenished. It needs to be  
 9 done in a way that is planned for and that  
 10 people really will understand. So that when my  
 11 great grandchildren are in Seattle and want to  
 12 go and see something wonderful and peaceful, it  
 13 will still be there. Thank you.

14 MR. GALT: Thank you Ms. Lewis. Next is  
 15 Gretchen Lambert, who will be followed by  
 16 Charles Lambert, who'll be followed by Kate  
 17 Roosevelt.

18 \*Statement H30 STATEMENT OF GRETCHEN LAMBERT  
 19 GRETCHEN LAMBERT: My name is Gretchen  
 20 Lambert, L-A-M-B-E-R-T.

21 H30.1 I live in northwest Seattle. However, I  
 22 frequent the arboretum at least once a week,  
 23 usually more often. I would like to comment  
 24 very briefly on the stated objective for  
 25 tonight, namely the quote/unquote the merits of

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**H30. Gretchen Lambert**

**H30.1**—Comment  
 acknowledged.  
 Please see the  
 response to comment  
 H 8.1 above.

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1 H30.1  
conf. the DEIS. I agree with those who have said  
2 that the arboretum requires a great deal of  
3 maintenance to keep just the way it is, that  
4 is, to replace aging trees and to keep the  
5 health of the plants in good shape. Plants,  
6 trees, do get old. They need replacing.

7 That said, I am very much opposed to any  
8 building, any future parking lots, any  
9 increased parking lots. Correctly, we have  
10 many small, inconspicuous, user-friendly,  
11 available, accessible parking lots in the  
12 arboretum. I agree with those here tonight who  
13 have said that no matter how many times we  
14 visit the arboretum, those parking lots are not  
15 full. It is very, very infrequent that every  
16 parking space is taken. And I hope that the  
17 people who are making the DEIS and any changes  
18 will actually spend a great deal of time in the  
19 arboretum counting the number of unused parking  
20 spaces to actually document whether more are  
21 really needed. I'm very, very opposed -- again  
22 I wish to repeat -- to any further building and  
23 any destruction of the arboretum as it is now.

24 If meetings, if people wish to have  
25 meetings, there are many places in Seattle

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DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H30.1  
conf. where they can have those meeting, not in the  
2 arboretum. I am in favor of using the Museum  
3 of History and Industry as an adjunct meeting  
4 place if such be needed or for office space. I  
5 am in favor of the no action alternative. I  
6 believe that the Olmsted brothers had a  
7 wonderful vision. They knew what they were  
8 doing. And I hope that today's city fathers  
9 will please pay attention to what the Olmsted  
10 brothers' foresight and planning was all about.  
11 If it weren't for them, we wouldn't even have  
12 the Washington Park today. It would be  
13 completely developed. It was due to their  
14 foresight that we even have this large open  
15 space for people, for contemplation as I use it  
16 myself. Thank you.

17 MR. GALT: Thank you, Ms. Lambert. Next  
18 is Charles Lambert, who will be followed by  
19 Kate Roosevelt, who'll be followed by Mr. or  
20 Ms. Borselli. Mr. Lambert.

21

22 \*Statement H31 STATEMENT OF CHARLES LAMBERT  
23 CHARLES LAMBERT: I'm Charles Lambert,  
24 L-A-M-B-E-R-T.  
25 H31.1 And the environmental impact statement as

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**H31. Charles Lambert**

**H31.1—Comment acknowledged.**

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1 #31.1  
2 cont. it stands today calls for increased parking  
3 space by doing away with some lots and building  
4 other, larger ones. It calls for increased  
5 signage, a number of square meters of increased  
6 signage, a great deal of that. It calls for an  
7 increase in the number of buildings. And in  
8 the current environmental impact statement, it  
9 is talking about there being no significant  
10 impacts of all of these changes.  
11 I would say that there is no such thing as  
12 no significant impact and that I favor the no  
13 action alternative. Thank you.  
14 MR. GALT: Thank you Mr. Lambert. Kate  
15 Roosevelt, followed by Mr. or Ms. Borselli,  
16 will be followed by Marina Skumanich or  
17 something close. I apologize, again, for  
18 someone I'm not doing a good job with.  
19 Ms. Roosevelt.  
20 \*Statement #32 STATEMENT OF KATE ROOSEVELT  
21 KATE ROOSEVELT: Thank you. Good evening.  
22 My name is Kate Roosevelt, R-O-O-S-E-V-E-L-T.  
23 I'm here tonight to speak to the draft  
24 environmental impact statement for Washington  
25 Park Arboretum Master Plan and I would like to  
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**H32. Kate Roosevelt**

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 86

1 tell you that I, in my spare time, I proudly  
2 serve as the treasurer of the Arboretum  
3 Foundation, which is the friends' group which  
4 devotes countless volunteer hours and many  
5 dollars to the care and feeding of the  
6 Washington Park Arboretum, the group of which I  
7 I am proud to be a part of.  
8 #32.1 I'm a Seattle resident. I've derived  
9 countless benefits from the Washington Park  
10 Arboretum during the 11 or so years that I've  
11 lived here. And tonight I would like to record  
12 my agreement with the findings of the Draft EIS  
13 of the Revised Master Plan for the Washington  
14 Park Arboretum. As such, I enthusiastically  
15 support the preferred alternative considered in  
16 the DEIS, that is, the ABGC plan.  
17 By the same token, I believe many of  
18 alternatives to the ABGC plan, particularly the  
19 proposals to place additional space for such  
20 needed administrative, conservation, and  
21 maintenance staff and equipment offsite would  
22 do a great disservice to the long-term care and  
23 feeding of Washington Park.  
24 I was delighted but not surprised that the  
25 Draft Environmental Impact Statement found that  
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**H32.1—Comment acknowledged.**

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 87

1 H32.1 neither the ABGC plan nor the alternatives  
2 comb. would change the natural character of the park.

3 H32.2 As such, I encourage you to include in the  
4 final EIS some perspective or context on the  
5 total area that would be affected by the  
6 building proposals in the ABGC plan as well as  
7 some of the parking issues that you heard about  
8 this evening. For example, my simple  
9 calculation indicates that new facilities, and  
10 I again reiterate much needed facilities that  
11 are program and need-driven, would constitute  
12 one quarter of 1 percent of the 230 acre park.  
13 That's less than half of an acre in a 230 acre  
14 H32.3 park. These facilities, which would be added  
15 to the park over a 20 to 30 year period, would  
16 greatly enhance the maintenance, plant  
17 conservation, recreation, and educational  
18 activities that take place in the arboretum.

19 I firmly believe that all citizens of  
20 Seattle and other visitors deserve a park with  
21 ADA accessible trails, a fully functioning and  
22 free-flowing stream, with opportunities to  
23 visit and learn from collections of threatened  
24 and endangered plants, and with the opportunity  
25 to bicycle safely alongside Lake Washington

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**H32.2**—See revised text in the Aesthetics section of the final EIS.

**H32.3**—Comment acknowledged.

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1 H32.3 Boulevard.  
2 comb. I urge you move forward in this process  
3 without delay, lest too much more time passes  
4 in which no action becomes the status quo. No  
5 action does nothing to provide the Washington  
6 Park Arboretum with the stewardship it  
7 desperately needs. No action sends an  
8 unfortunate message that Seattle citizens are  
9 unwilling to invest the necessary resources to  
10 care for their treasured and world-renowned  
11 arboretum. Thank you.

12 MR. GALT: Thank you, Ms. Roosevelt. Next  
13 is Borselli, who'll be followed by Marina  
14 Skumanich, who will be followed by Ann Parent.  
15 Mr. Borselli.

16

17 \*Statement H33 STATEMENT OF GREGORY A. BORSELLI

18 GREGORY A. BORSELLI: My name is Greg  
19 Borselli, B-O-R-S-E-L-L-I. I'm a teacher in  
20 the Bellevue public schools and a resident of  
21 Seattle. Currently our district is advanced in  
22 preparation of curricular development in the  
23 area of the sciences to support the Washington  
24 State Essential Academic Learning Requirements,  
25 EALRS. As a result of this, our district is

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**H33. Gregory Borselli**

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1 currently working with the educational  
 2 developers at Mercer Slough to support EALRS  
 3 for the 7th and 8th grade programs. These  
 4 EALRS support environmental science education.  
 5 Within the last year, the Bellevue school  
 6 curricular advisors for the sciences K-12 met  
 7 with the Seattle schools' curriculum adviser on  
 8 how to best utilize public parks to support  
 9 education.

10 H33.1 I feel the EIS will help to provide more  
 11 cont'd students with the opportunity to learn from  
 12 their environment and become excited enough to  
 13 return to the arboretum and other parks with  
 14 friends and relatives to show them what they  
 15 had learned. Bellevue has its own parks so it  
 16 doesn't need to use the arboretum, but it would  
 17 like to. The Seattle schools do need the  
 18 arboretum as well as the other parks.

19 I will provide more information to the  
 20 this committee concerning benchmarks 1, 2, and  
 21 3 for elementary school, middle school, and  
 22 high school in the areas of environmental  
 23 science and science studies for the Essential  
 24 Academic Learning Requirements of Washington  
 25 State. That way you'll understand what the

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H33.1—Comment acknowledged.

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 90

1 H33.1 education that we need to have there.  
 2 cont'd And as a side note as a -- how the hell do  
 3 I say it -- environmental educator with the  
 4 scouting program, in leading treks into the  
 5 wilderness, I was pretty vigilant about making  
 6 sure that the scouts that went with me  
 7 respected the wilderness. If they didn't at  
 8 first, by the end of week, they did. It's hard  
 9 to get a student involved just once. You've  
 10 got to take them out there many times. I had  
 11 the opportunity to have them for a week-long  
 12 period overnight. I don't know if I'll ever  
 13 get that opportunity in the public school  
 14 system, but that's the direction I'd like to  
 15 go.

16 MR. GALT: Thank you, Mr. Borselli. The  
 17 next speaker is Marina Skumanich, followed by  
 18 Ann Parent and then by Larry Fowelson.  
 19

20 \*Statement H34 STATEMENT BY MARINA SKUMANICH  
 21 MARINA SKUMANICH: My name is Marina  
 22 Skumanich. That's M-A-R-I-N-A, last name  
 23 Skumanich, S-K-U-M-A-N-I-C-H.  
 24 I'm here tonight on behalf of the Seattle  
 25 Audubon Society to share with you our overall

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H34. Marina Skumanich

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 91

1 perspective on the draft EIS for the arboretum  
2 plan. As you know, Seattle Audubon is  
3 committed to the protection and enjoyment of  
4 urban wildlife and natural land. In addition,  
5 we have long been supporters of the city's  
6 parks and open space. It is with these values  
7 in mind that we make our comments tonight.  
8 Seattle Audubon will be submitting more  
9 detailed comments in writing, but in the  
10 following comments I would like to briefly  
11 touch on five key issues that we believe are  
12 essential to preparing an EIS that will be  
13 truly useful in the overall arboretum  
14 decision-making process.

15 **H34.1** First, the Draft EIS represents a very  
16 good characterization of the baseline resources  
17 of the Washington Park Arboretum. Less clear  
18 is whether the Draft EIS provides a  
19 consistently useful analysis of impacts to  
20 these resources under the alternatives. In  
21 several instances the analysis of the impact or  
22 lack of impact appears to be rather superficial  
23 and unsubstantiated. It is not sufficient to  
24 declare that an alternative will or will not  
25 have a significant impact. The EIS must

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**H34.1**—Comment acknowledged.

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 92

1 **H34.1** provide the reasoning behind that declaration.  
2 cont'd. Second, as a related point, the Draft EIS  
3 **H34.2** consistently evaluates the environmental  
4 impacts of each planned element separately,  
5 examining buildings separately from parking  
6 separately from landscape features, et cetera.  
7 This is useful but incomplete. Particularly  
8 given the scope of the changes envisioned in  
9 the plan, the EIS must also evaluate the plan  
10 as a whole. For it is only in the context of  
11 the whole plan that the environmental impacts  
12 are relevant. For example, in the section on  
13 impacts to plants and animals, while impacts  
14 relative to the individual plan elements are  
15 described, nowhere is the cumulative effect of  
16 each impact considered. Clearly, the EIS must  
17 address this issue.

18 **H34.3** Third, the evaluation of impacts must  
19 consider both short-term and long-term impacts.  
20 The fact that the plan would be implemented  
21 over several years may, indeed, ensure, as  
22 stated on page 107, that impacts occurring at  
23 any one time will be limited, the changes  
24 occurring at a gradual pace. However,  
25 regardless of how limited and gradual,

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**H34.2**—See the response to comment 19.2.

**H34.3**—See the response to comment 4.24.

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1 H34.3 short-term impacts have the potential to  
2 *cont.* accumulate to the point of leaving lasting  
3 long-term damage. This possibility needs to  
4 exclusively addressed by the EIS.

5 H34.4 Fourth, Seattle Audubon submits that the  
6 landscape changes, i.e. the exhibits, proposed  
7 by the ABGC plan are extensive; and, depending  
8 upon how these changes are implemented, they  
9 have the potential to radically affect various  
10 environmental attributes, including  
11 particularly urban habitat and water resources.  
12 Given the significance of this plan element, it  
13 is essential that the EIS provide one or more  
14 alternatives to the ABGC plan, relative to  
15 landscape features that represent reduced  
16 scope, that is, alternatives with more moderate  
17 changes in plant exhibits. This is notably  
18 absent in the, in the draft EIS.

19 H34.5 Finally, Seattle Audubon must repeat our  
20 position on the siting of new buildings within  
21 the Washington Park Arboretum. Given the  
22 critical need for open space within our  
23 community, Seattle Audubon strongly believes  
24 that proposals to replace open space with  
25 buildings and impervious surfaces should be

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**H34.4**—The no-action alternative includes continued maintenance and some renovation of the arboretum, with only a limited number of new exhibits.

**H34.5**—Comment acknowledged.

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00 94

1 H34.5 included in the Master Plan only with clear and  
2 *cont.* compelling justification and only after other  
3 alternatives have been explored and fully  
4 deemed infeasible. The Draft EIS as written,  
5 does not give sufficient attention to the  
6 environmental and community values that will be  
7 adversely affected by new building sited within  
8 the arboretum, particular the proposed Madrona  
9 Terrace. Thank you.

10 MR. GALT: Thank you, Ms. Skumanich.  
11 Ann Parent, who'll be followed by Larry  
12 Powelson, who'll be followed by Patricia  
13 Crockett.

14

15 \*Statement H35 STATEMENT OF ANN PARENT  
16 ANN PARENT: My name is Parent,  
17 P-A-R-E-N-T.

18 H35.1 I'm speaking about this more from an  
19 emotional point of view, as a user of the  
20 Washington Park Arboretum. When I hear the  
21 word "development," I get really worried:  
22 Buildings, more parking, destruction of  
23 standing tree groups. I don't think that is  
24 what we need in the year 2000. We need just  
25 the opposite, and Seattle has parks that are

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**H35. Ann Parent**

**H35.1**—Comment acknowledged.

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1 H35.1 not well maintained. I'm thinking of one of  
2 conti. the parks which I used to go to and enjoy. You  
3 can't even go near it, and that is the park off  
4 the freeway in the International District that  
5 has become just littered with dirty people.  
6 And why would you want to bring more people  
7 into the arboretum by car and encourage them to  
8 destroy this jewel. I'm sorry. That's not  
9 good.

10 MR. GALT: Thank you, Ms. Parent. Next is  
11 Larry Powelson, who'll be followed by Patricia  
12 Crockett and then by Neal Lessenger.

13  
14

15 \*Statement H35 STATEMENT OF LARRY POWELSON

16 LARRY POWELSON: Talking about the new  
17 signage on Azalea Way, there's an article about  
18 it in the Seattle Times. I had additional  
19 copies, but they seem to have all disappeared.  
20 So the rest of you are on your own.  
21 My name is Larry Powelson,  
22 P-O-W-E-L-S-O-N.

23 H36.1 I'd like start by talking about the  
24 characterization of this issue as a  
25 neighborhood versus regional one. Nothing is

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**H36. Larry Powelson**

**H36.1**—Please see revised text in the final EIS regarding major conclusions and areas of controversy.

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1 H36.1 further from the truth. We from, the APPC has  
2 conti. supporters all over Seattle. People who find  
3 out about this master plan are nearly uniformly  
4 appalled that new buildings are being  
5 considered; and just because today's, tonight's  
6 meeting has only two people from West Seattle,  
7 we should not infer that the rest of the  
8 residents from West Seattle support the ABGC  
9 plan.

10 What this really is about is whether the  
11 Washington Park Arboretum is a museum or a  
12 park, whether it is a single-use  
13 single-appreciation facility or a multi-use  
14 facility that all citizens can enjoy. There is  
15 an arboretum in Washington Park and Washington  
16 Park is a much better place because of it.  
17 It's a beautiful park. It is, I think, the  
18 most beautiful park in Seattle, and it is  
19 beautiful precisely because of the work the  
20 Arboretum Foundation has done to maintain the  
21 arboretum. And I'm very appreciative of that.  
22 During -- let's see.

23 H36.2 In the Draft EIS, it says that the  
24 objectives for recreational use, that  
25 recreational use is consistent with arboretum

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**H36.2**—See the response to comment 4.8.

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1 H36.2 use. In the scoping process, Paul Gibson  
 2 cont'd. requested that it also stated that arboretum  
 3 use is consistent with the recreational use.  
 4 And Clem Hamilton agreed that that was a good  
 5 idea. However that statement does not appear  
 6 in the Draft EIS. The final EIS must state  
 7 that the arboretum use must be consistent with  
 8 the recreational use, and it must define what  
 9 that recreational use is. And, among other  
 10 H36.3 uses, I believe that that means that a lot of  
 11 people use Washington Park as a respite from  
 12 the works of man and that, if we have 50 more  
 13 additional exhibits of the nature that are  
 14 described in there, it will be impossible to  
 15 escape the fact that this is a botanical  
 16 display.

17 H36.4 One other statement is that it says that  
 18 15,000 students a year will be going through  
 19 the arboretum. The final EIS must substantiate  
 20 that figure with, by discussions with educators  
 21 and the Seattle school system and include  
 22 figures on the current number of students and  
 23 the current competing educational facilities in  
 24 Carkeek Park, Lincoln Park, Discovery Park,  
 25 and, if they consider bringing in people from.

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**H36.3**—See the response to comment 4.3.

**H36.4**—See the response to comments 2.1 and 3.21.

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1 H36.4 kids from the Eastside, also the new arboretums  
 2 cont'd. proposed in Preston and Carnation. All these  
 3 must be considered before we can just accept  
 4 15,000 students as the number that it's going  
 5 to be. Thank you.

6 MR. GALT: Thank you, Mr. Powelson. The  
 7 last two speakers -- excuse me. There will be  
 8 three more. The next one will be Patricia  
 9 Crockett, who will be followed by Neal  
 10 Lessenger, who will be followed by Mary  
 11 Iverson.

12

13 *Statement H37* STATEMENT OF PATRICIA CROCKETT

14 PATRICIA CROCKETT: Hello, My name is  
 15 Patricia Crockett, C-R-O-C-K-E-T-T.

16 H37.1 Back in 1934 or '35, before I was alive, a  
 17 friend of mine was one of the founders of the  
 18 arboretum; and you know she liked plants. I  
 19 like plants; and I see the arboretum as a  
 20 museum, a great big museum. And one of the  
 21 wonderful things about it, as Charlie Chong  
 22 mentioned, is that it doesn't cost anything to  
 23 get there. And I went to Kew Gardens a couple  
 24 weeks ago. It cost me 6 pounds and my husband  
 25 5 1/2 pounds to get there, to be there.

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**H37. Patricia Crockett**

**H37.1**—Comment acknowledged.

99

DRAFT EIS HEARING, 6-15-00

1 H27.1 And the arboretum is a wonderful place;  
2 cont. and as a museum, museums have to be kept up.  
3 Now, that means that you have to keep up the  
4 pathways. Now, this museum in the arboretum is  
5 one I can't take my mother-in-law to. She used  
6 to be able to walk around. She used to go  
7 there. But now there are steps, and she can't  
8 go up and down the steps. So one of the ideas  
9 in the Arboretum Master Plan was to smooth out  
10 those pathways and allow people to drive  
11 wheelchairs back and forth around them.

12 The other thing I see when I go to the  
13 arboretum once or twice a week is busses  
14 filling up the parking lot of, well, they're  
15 filling up the driveway at the Graham Visitor  
16 Center. And the busses contain -- they don't  
17 fill it up for very long. They leave, and I  
18 don't know where they go. But there's no place  
19 to park for them. But they leave students.  
20 Lots of little kids go there, and they leave  
21 adults from outside the area.

22 Now I bring my friends from outside the  
23 area there, but I'd like to bring my  
24 mother-in-law there because she'd like to be  
25 there. I can't because all she could go to is

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1 H27.1 one of these little parking lots. That doesn't  
2 cont. work. It works for one man to bring his wife  
3 to all these little parking lots, but she can't  
4 get out of the car because there's no place for  
5 her to go.

6 And so put in the better parking for  
7 busses, yes. And put in the pathways that are  
8 part of this master plan. That's a great idea.  
9 And put a bike path right next to the driveway  
10 where people rush along Washington Park  
11 Boulevard to get to the freeway so they can go  
12 east. That's a trouble at the arboretum. All  
13 these people are trying to drive, rushing  
14 through the arboretum; and they can't be there.

15 The soccer field at the end, fine. Let's  
16 have the plants maintained. There is lots of  
17 weeds around, lots of those weeds, of noxious  
18 weeds that I see around the edges. But we need  
19 a whole lot more to be done for the Arboretum  
20 just to keep it up. Like a family house, if  
21 the family grows -- and Seattle has grown --  
22 there needs to be another room for the family.  
23 Thanks. Bye.

24 MR. GALT: Thank you, Ms. Crockett. The  
25 next speaker will be Neal Lessenger, who will

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1 be followed by Mary Iverson. And I was given  
 2 one additional name that's Carl Lipkin, the  
 3 third speaker.

4

5 \*Statement #38 STATEMENT OF NEAL LESSENGER

6 LESSENGER: My name's Neal Lessenger.  
 7 It's spelled N-E-A-L, L-E-S-S-E-N-G-E-R.

8 H38.1 I'm a resident here in Seattle, and I live  
 9 in the Meadowbrook neighborhood, about five  
 10 miles north of the arboretum in Washington  
 11 Park. I have sat here tonight. I have  
 12 listened to those folks who are also in favor  
 13 of the adoption of the EIS and the recommended  
 14 action stated therein. I heard my arguments  
 15 and my statements whittled away and stated by  
 16 other people. And therefore I'm only left with  
 17 saying that the arboretum is a very changing  
 18 place, and it will be different 25 years from  
 19 now as it was 25 years ago. I would expect we  
 20 must proceed to that point in an orderly  
 21 fashion, with a plan as presented by the ABGC  
 22 and discussed in the EIS. This is the plan to  
 23 go with.

24 MR. GALT: Thank you, Mr. Lessenger. Mary  
 25 Iverson.

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**H38. Neal Lessenger**

**H38.1**—Comment acknowledged.

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1

2 \*Statement #39 STATEMENT OF MARY IVERSON

3 H39.1 MARY IVERSON: I also live at some -- my  
 4 name is spelled I-V-E-R-S-O-N. I live at some  
 5 distance from the park. And the park has been  
 6 something that's been a real treasure in our  
 7 family for many years. The children have grown  
 8 up. Mother now I take from the nursing home.  
 9 I take her for rides, and we stop at different  
 10 viewpoints and enjoy the scenery that once we  
 11 walked through. But, you know, as I listen to  
 12 the idea of creating this, these paved pathways  
 13 and so forth, I know that my mother, for a  
 14 fact, would be appalled at altering the nature  
 15 of the park in order for her to be able to  
 16 tootle around on wheels. She would prefer to  
 17 be able to go to various viewpoints, as we do,  
 18 and drink in the ambience that we have known  
 19 and treasured from way back to anything that  
 20 would alter this situation. As a matter of  
 21 fact, just now, I have was late helping to feed  
 22 her at the nursing home; and she was very much  
 23 interested in my coming here because, when she  
 24 heard that there was a building being planned  
 25 for it, trees to be cut down and more parking

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**H39. Mary Iverson**

**H39.1**—Under the proposed master plan, paths in the park would be surfaced primarily with crushed rock, as are many of the paths at present. The exception is the proposed dual-use trail. See revisions to the proposed plan, in Appendix A of the final EIS. The proposed plan also reduces the size and number of buildings and calls for use of the Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI) for some functions.

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1 H39.1 created, people brought in for classroom use,  
 2 cont'd she said, no, this is not our arboretum. See  
 3 what you can say to keep it the way we have  
 4 known it. Tomorrow she'll be 100 years old.  
 5 I was there in 1968 when we citizens that  
 6 fought the R. H. Thompson expressway that was  
 7 supposed to so callously extend a freeway  
 8 through that area. And what we're seeing now  
 9 is certainly of much different character in  
 10 term of the EIS proposal. What I am afraid of  
 11 is that, unlike the speaker who said that,  
 12 well, the percentage of land involved in this  
 13 is very small compared to the total size -- it  
 14 reminds me of the notion that a bomb placed in  
 15 that corner may only be a tiny fraction of the  
 16 size of this meeting room, but its impact will  
 17 be far greater.  
 18 I am in favor of using whatever office  
 19 space is available in Mohai or any other  
 20 location. But to buresucratize and create  
 21 classroom space, inviting bus loads of  
 22 polluting busses of people, whether it's  
 23 tourists, children, whatever, I think is a true  
 24 mistake. It violates the very principles of  
 25 the Olmsted plan, which have served us so well

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1 H39.1 and have provided that respite, that  
 2 cont'd unstructured respite from the kind of things  
 3 that press on us in everyday urban life.  
 4 So I would say it preserve as it is now,  
 5 or make minor adjustments, yes. Replace a tree  
 6 here or there but I definitely disagree with  
 7 the overall plan, the thrust, the intent of  
 8 your plan, the proposed plan. Thank you very  
 9 much.  
 10 MR. GALT: Thank you, Ms. Iverson. Carl  
 11 Lipkin.  
 12  
 13 \*Statement H40 STATEMENT OF CARL LIPKIN  
 14 H40.1 CAROL LIPKIN: It's Carl with a C,  
 15 L-I-P-K-I-N. Thank you for the opportunity to  
 16 say a few words, entirely unplanned and  
 17 impromptu.  
 18 I moved to Seattle nearly 18 years ago,  
 19 thinking that Seattle -- being from New York  
 20 City, thinking that Seattle had the opportunity  
 21 to be one of the most exquisite mid-sized  
 22 cities in the world. And growth has passed  
 23 that possibility by. It's gone.  
 24 The arboretum is an exquisite gem in which  
 25 it's still difficult to a certain extent to

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**H40. Carol Lipkin**

**H40.1—Comment acknowledged.**

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H40.1  
cont.

1 find deep peace, but it's very close. I was  
2 visiting a friend today in Bothell on a 40-acre  
3 tract, where they have deep beauty and quiet.  
4 The arboretum could be that, an oasis, an  
5 absolutely invaluable oasis. The effort should  
6 be to remove the traffic and quiet the place  
7 and preserve it, not to add. We have enough  
8 learning. You know the Taoists tell us, do  
9 less. Let go. Don't add. There's too much  
10 now, way too much. Find another place with  
11 cars. Let it become quiet, a serene place, and  
12 the mental health of the city will be  
13 profoundly enhanced. Thank you.

14 MR. GALT: Thank you, Mr. Lipkin. Is  
15 there anybody present who has not spoken  
16 tonight, who would like to speak regarding the  
17 adequacy of the draft EIS for up to three  
18 minutes as the other folks have? No? Okay.

19 On behalf of the Department of Parks and  
20 Recreation, I want to thank you all for coming  
21 tonight. I especially thank those of you who  
22 testified tonight. I would like to remind you,  
23 before we leave, that there are comment sheets  
24 available, comments sheets on the table by the  
25 back door. If you've made some notes on yours

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1 tonight, Mr. Campbell has a box back there, and  
2 you can leave the sheet tonight with him if  
3 you'd like to. He will see that Mr. Marshal of  
4 the Parks Department gets it.

5 If you want to take them home with you and  
6 write more lengthy comments, do that and mail  
7 it to the address that's on the back side.  
8 Remember, just flip it over. The mailing  
9 address is right on the back.

10 Again, I thank you all for coming and  
11 participating tonight. Please drive safely on  
12 the way home.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Is there an E-mail  
14 address?

15 MR. GALT: Is there an E-mail address?

16 MR. HARRIS: Yes,

17 Peter.Marshall@CI.Seattle.WA.U.S.

18 MR. GALT: If you need that repeated, I'm  
19 sure we can do that off the record.

20 This concludes tonight's hearing.

21 [Hearing concluded at 8:40 p.m.]  
22  
23  
24  
25

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C E R T I F I C A T E

1  
2 STATE OF WASHINGTON )  
3 COUNTY OF King ) SS

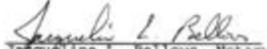
4 I, Jacqueline L. Bellows, a Notary Public in and  
5 for the State of Washington, do hereby certify:

6 That the foregoing hearing was taken before me  
7 at the time and place therein set forth;

8 That the statements of the witnesses and all  
9 remarks made at the time of the hearing were recorded  
10 stenographically by me, and thereafter transcribed under  
11 my direction;

12 That the foregoing transcript is a true record  
13 of the statements given by the witnesses and of all  
14 remarks made at the time of the hearing, to the best of  
15 my ability.

16 Witness my hand and seal this 26th day of  
17 June, 1999.

18  
19  
20   
21 Jacqueline L. Bellows, Notary  
22 Public in and for the State  
23 of Washington, residing at  
24 Arlington. Commission  
25 expires October 17, 2002.

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