

South Recycling and Disposal Station (SRDS) Redevelopment Project

Meeting Summary Stakeholder Group Meeting #2 March 28, 2016

Introduction

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) is redeveloping the old South Recycling and Disposal Station site, located near the intersection of 5th Avenue South and South Kenyon Street at 8100 2nd Avenue South. This 11-acre site is owned by SPU and offers a unique opportunity to develop a permanent facility that will house various SPU services and operational facilities.

Based on community feedback, SPU convened a Stakeholder Group to provide input on various elements of the project. In conjunction with local non-profit, Environmental Coalition of South Seattle (ECOSS), the South Park Neighborhood Association (SPNA), and the Department of Neighborhoods, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) recruited volunteers to serve on the stakeholder group. Stakeholder Group members are: Bill Pease (Environmental Coalition of South Seattle), Jessica Miller (Resident), Irene Stupka (SPNA), Marty Oppenheimer (Business Owner), Lora Suggs (SPNA), Nate Moxley (Marra Farms), Paulina Lopez (Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition) and Carmen Martinez (Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition).

Stakeholder Group Meeting #1 was held on February 1, 2016 where stakeholders were introduced to the project and asked to prioritize the project elements on which they would like to provide input. Meeting #2 was held on March 28, 2016. A summary of Meeting #2 is presented below.

Meeting #2 Details and Agenda

Meeting Time and Location

March 28, 2016 - 6:30-8:30pm, South Transfer Station, 3rd Floor Large Conference Room, 130 S Kenyon St

Meeting Purpose

- Review concepts and provide input on customer use of new recycle area
- Review concepts and provide input on pedestrian path, fencing and lighting
- Introduction to public art process and artist

Meeting Agenda

- 1. 6:30 p.m. - Welcome and Introductions - (Kristin Anderson)**
 - Introductions
 - Review meeting agenda and purpose
 - Reconfirm ground rules

2. **6:40 p.m. – Recap of Meeting #1** - (Kay Yesuwan)
2. **6:45 p.m. - Project Updates** - (Kay Yesuwan)
 - Schedule
 - Public Involvement
3. **6:55 p.m. - Presentation and Discussion – Customer use of new recycle area** - (Olivia Williams)
 - Overview of what is possible
 - Discussion and stakeholder group recommendations
4. **7:25 p.m. - Presentation and Discussion – Pedestrian Path/Fencing/Lighting** - (Olivia Williams)
 - Overview of what is possible
 - Discussion and stakeholder group recommendations
5. **7:55 p.m. - Art** - (Adam Kuby)
6. **8:10 p.m. - Discussion – SPU Outside SRDS** - (Kristin Anderson)
7. **8:25 p.m. - Next Steps and schedule upcoming meeting** - (Kristin Anderson)
8. **8:30 p.m. - Adjourn**

Meeting #2 Invitees and Attendance

Stakeholders

- Jessica Miller
- Bill Pease
- Nate Moxley
- Lora Suggs
- Irene Stupka
- Marty Oppenheimer
- Paulina Lopez
- Carmen Martinez

City

- Kay Yesuwan, SPU Project Manager
- Tim Croll, SPU

- Ken Snipes, SPU
- Jeff Neuner, SPU
- Marieke Rack, SPU
- Ruri Yampolsky, Office of Arts and Culture

Artist

- Adam Kuby

Outreach Consultant

- Kristin Anderson (Stepherson & Assoc.)

Design Consultant

- Olivia Williams (HDR)

Stakeholder Input Summary

The notes from the meeting are included in this document in Appendix A. The following is a summary of what was presented and discussed, including any responses or follow up items that were identified.

Public involvement with the broader community

The group provided recommendations on who and how to reach out to the broader community.

- Suggest presenting information and gathering input at or just prior to an SPNA meeting
 - *SPU will work with Lora Suggs to schedule this meeting*
- Manufacturing Industrial Council (MIC) should be engaged to learn about project and provide input, including issues of freight mobility
 - *SPU will contact MIC*

Customer use of the new recycling facility

Stakeholders had a number of questions about how the overall layout of the facility (parking and bypass lanes) would function, and if the facility could handle the projected volume of traffic/users. Olivia Williams (HDR) explained to the group that the parallel operations (bypass and parking lane) are more efficient than angled/back-in operations and that the building was designed to support projected peak traffic. Stakeholders shared suggestions for facilitating the drop-off of heavy loads, including providing carts for customers to use. Stakeholders also had questions about how the parking and bypass lane would function.

- What if a customer brings in materials that are too heavy to unload and dump?
 - *Answer: SPU is considering a pullover lane on the right side of the facility (to the right of the drive through lane) for heavier loads.*
- What will happen to the recycling operations at the South Transfer Station (STS)?
 - *Answer: Those items collected without a fee will be moved to the new recycling facility.*
- What will the hours of operation be at the new recycling facility?
 - *Answer: Hours of operation will be the same as they are at the South Transfer Station, which are currently 8:00am-5:30pm.*
- How does the size of the new recycling facility/building account for recycling growth?
 - *Answer: When designing the size of the recycling building, the project team took into consideration projected recycling rates.*
- Has SPU considered paying customers for recycling?
 - *Answer: SPU's goal is to increase City wide recycling. Private companies that pay for materials contribute to that goal. We will continue to offer free recycling services without competing with private recycling companies that pay for some materials.*
- Typically the high end of a single sloped roof is on the north side of structure. Why is it on the south side for the recycling building?
 - *Answer: The high end of the sloped roof is on the south side of this building for operational and functional reasons. The truck lane for hauling away bins full of recycled materials is located on the south side of the recycling building. The design intent of placing the recycling bins and the truck lane on the south side is to maintain separation between the customer use area (to the north) and the operations area (to the south) for safety reasons. Having the high end of the sloped roof on the south side*

of the recycling building allows for adequate clearance for the trucks to pick up and haul away the recycling bins.

Pedestrian Path

Olivia Williams (HDR) asked the group for their preferences on pathway fence layout and pathway layout design concepts. In general, the group supported a linear fence and at least some landscaping outside the fence. The group was in support of low, native, drought-tolerant species and preferred planting berms over swales. Stakeholders also suggested a meandering path with landscaped areas that varies in width and includes site furnishings, either benches or stone slabs that are designed into the landscape. Questions from stakeholders included:

Will SPU construct a ramp at the southern end of STS pathway to provide easy connection across the street (S Kenyon St) to the new pathway along 5th Ave S?

- *Answer: SPU will construct a connection between the STS pathway and the SRDS pathway. The exact location of this connection (including ramp and crosswalk) will require approval from the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT). A crosswalk/ramp at the intersection where the SR-99 south bound off ramp traffic merges with S Kenyon St/5th Ave S is unacceptable to SDOT for safety reasons. The STS pathway extends west past the transfer station customer exit to the intersection at S Kenyon St/2nd Ave S. This potential crossing location has been approved by SDOT because it is an adequate distance from the SR-99 south bound off ramp.*

Who will water and maintain the plantings along the pathway?

- SPU confirmed that they will be responsible for landscape and pathway maintenance adjacent to its property.

Public Art

Adam Kuby presented some examples of his previous work and talked about his process. Adam interacted with the group. His questions and the group's responses are captured in this document in Appendix A.

- *Follow up: The public art process is run by the Seattle Office of Arts and Culture (OAC). If there are other opportunities for community involvement, OAC will follow up with the Stakeholder Group.*

Next Steps/Follow Up

- Meeting #3 was scheduled for Monday, June 6, 2016

Appendix A: Group Discussion Notes

The bullets below, transcribed from notes taken at the meeting, paraphrase comments made during group discussions.

Public involvement with the broader community

- SPNA meeting or just prior (6:30-7pm). Occurs 2nd Tuesday of the month. Work with Lora Suggs to schedule.
- Manufacturing Industrial Council (MIC) – consider issues of freight mobility.

Customer use of new recycle area

- Suggest carts next to bins for ease of loading
- Some concern about parking lane to left forcing drivers to maneuver right when pulling back into through lane

Facility Architecture

Olivia Williams (HDR) asked the group “What do you like about the South Transfer Station?”

Responses included:

- Artwork
- Recycled pieces, found art wall
- View to tipping floor
- Use of daylight and diffused lighting is a success in this project
- Use of different materials (metal, concrete)
- Has a feeling of being grounded to site, connected to landscape
- Like the identification of the site at night using lighting

Other suggestions about design and architecture of facility:

- Use translucent panels – allow lighting to be seen through sides and top of building
- Is there a way to make it look smaller? Possibly break up the mass using different materials.
- Balance the look of being industrial while being public
- When coming down from White Center, there might be a view of top of building. Suggest focusing some kind of design on top for that view to make it stand out against the “thunderbird”
- Use recycled materials
- Link it to STS

Pedestrian Path

- Take a look at how path connects to STS path and the ramp at end of STS
- Visually like the way a crenellated fence looks, but the little spaces that are created collect trash and create safety concerns (areas for people to hide)
- The layers/surface area of crenellated space is overbearing and makes fence look bigger than it is
- Like that crenellated fence allows for plants outside of fence
- Suggest low shrubs and linear fence
- Could fence be part of art?
- Prefer berms over swales

- Swales will collect trash and people will drive over them
- Green stormwater inspired swales feel forced and don't necessarily fit in the context of the site
- Berms make pedestrian experience feel safer
- Like plants on both sides of path (rather than path up against fence)
- Could path width vary (stay minimum 8 feet wide, but sometimes wider as the berm could be narrower)
- A meandering path or berms could make path/walking more interesting
- Provide site furnishings - benches or slab stones along path - though perhaps worked into landscaping instead of being "obvious"
- Like having plantings outside the fence as long as someone is going to keep that area clean
- Use native and drought tolerant plants
- Prefer year round plants over flowering perennials
- No bamboo
- Make sure plantings are watered and maintained
- Consider if narrower southbound lane will be an issue for trucks

Public Art

Adam Kuby posed the following questions to the group to direct their input.

- Does art come in and around the site? Does it accompany the journey?
- Are there opportunities for interactions?
- Are there opportunities for the use of existing building materials?
- How does the art behave over time?
- Are there any art materials in the South Park neighborhood, or streams of material that pass through the facility?
- Are there ways to daylight what is not seen?

The group offered the following input in response to Adam's questions:

- Like the "digestive" process theme for an area handling solid waste
- Follow the journey, create a series of pieces of art which might follow the customer use of area. Wayfinding signs are also important to this project. Is there a way to combine these two?
- Recycling theme
- Could fence be art?
- Area is about salvaging, scraping, waste management. It's a big part of the community and also sometimes a problem.
- Like idea of using materials from South Park industrial businesses
- Draw inspiration from Duwamish River and the First Nations people, perhaps talk with DRCC
- Site former dump is an archeological site
- Tidelands, delta, fill - sedimentation of manmade and nature
- Small scale manufacturing
- Knowing more about where stuff comes from, where it's made, where it goes