**Introduction and Background**

This is the second in a series of newsletters designed to keep you informed about the progress of a planning project to prepare a conceptual plan for a recreational and interpretive trail through Seattle’s historic Pioneer Square neighborhood called the ‘Trail to Treasure’. The first newsletter described the project, planning process, and timeline. This newsletter provides summary information about the Information Gathering stage of the project and explains the upcoming Design Workshop that will be the cornerstone event in the entire process.

**You Are Invited!**

Please join us at a public meeting for a presentation and discussion of design ideas for the 'Trail to Treasure' through Seattle’s historic Pioneer Square neighborhood.

**Saturday, January 30, 2010**

6:30 - 8:00 pm

**Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park**

319 Second Ave South

Seattle, Washington 98104

**Design Workshop Scheduled**

A creative design brainstorming workshop (called a charrette) will be conducted on Saturday, January 30th in Pioneer Square. Approximately 35 stakeholder representatives will participate in this day-long event. Everyone will be organized into three teams, each assisted by two or more volunteer landscape architects who work for local firms. These teams will prepare design ideas and conceptual graphic illustrations for the future Trail to Treasure.

A public presentation will be held Saturday evening at the conclusion of the workshop to present, share, and discuss the initial design ideas. Each team will report on their designs and the public will be able to preview the drawings.

All interested citizens are invited to attend the public presentation to be held at the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park (see above).
Information Gathering

The first stage of the project is nearing completion. It consisted of researching and gathering baseline information in coordination with the advisory committee. The planning team has developed a base map, draft vision and goal statement, and reports that summarize: 1) the natural and cultural resources of the area; 2) relevant planning documents; 3) visitor demographics; 4) stakeholder interests; and 5) opportunities, issues, and constraints.

Draft Vision Statement

The ‘Trail to Treasure’ is a premiere experience that fosters a sense of community, commemorates heritage, and enriches the lives of residents and visitors to Seattle's Pioneer Square neighborhood. The trail provides a diverse range of activities and opportunities that allow people to embrace, learn, and care for the region's natural environment and cultural history.

The trail and support facilities:
- Conserves, promotes, and educates people about the region’s authentic natural and cultural history.
- Provides physical and social connectivity between Pioneer Square and adjacent neighborhoods, facilities, resources, and attractions
- Contributes to the diversity of regional, family oriented, recreation opportunities for residents and visitors
- Promotes and encourages partnerships among local stakeholders for coordinated management

Next Steps

After the design workshop the Planning Team will begin work on the final stage of the project - preparation of a draft and final plan. The draft plan will be released for public review and comment at another public meeting in May. After that the plan will be finalized, printed, and distributed. The third, and final, newsletter will be distributed prior to release of the draft plan.

Trail to Treasure Newsletter
Sponsored By:

Pioneer Square Community Association

National Park Service
Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program