

JUNCTION PLAZA MEETING 2 ON OCTOBER 24, 2006 - COMMENTS

General Comments and Questions

How high is the seating against the alley?

- Maybe two levels of seats.
- There is not much of a grade change across the site.

The West Seattle Junction Association would like to continue the street trees and decorative lampposts with flower baskets. The pedestrian lights on California Ave were paid for by the City.

How big are the circle areas?

- Approximately 50' across.
- The stage area is 15' across.

Need bike racks in the sidewalk between trees.

Will there be art?

- Not part of the ProParks Art program but donations could secure art.

Can you include a kiosk?

Need a community map near the water fountain.

There should be consistent trees down Alaska.

Concern about number of deciduous trees. What about green color in the winter?

- Could be shrub beds.

Back side against Alaska House could be water feature (commented about difficulty maintaining).

Different paving is nice.

Voice of support for the balance of paving and green.

Would like a art form / play structure – like at University Village.

Nice design. Visibility is good. Need even lighting for safety. Be cautious about graffiti surfaces.

(Member of the Skatepark Advisory Committee.)

Need to consider passive vs active use. This is a busy place. Needs some active use to enliven the space. Deal Proactively with skateboard – either yes or no – through proper design. A permeable surface would discourage skateboarders. The elderly folks adjacent to Ballard bowl have been supportive.

Continue murals that are in Junction.
Need curb cut on 42nd Street.

Concern about kids and skateboarders.

There will be skating on walkways regardless.

Pavers could be soft so they aren't able to skate on walkways. Soft surface also non-harmful for the kids.

Discourage skateboarders, we don't want to be next to teenagers.
Concern about people sleeping in the park.

Can you have a screen for movie nights.

WSJA is working on the area. They are working on safe, dumpster free alleys, police presence. This project isn't an isolated activity.

Are you introducing color in the seating area? (paving? Bricks)
Color could help make pavers lively

Balance active with passive.
Emphasize activity to create a good space.

Who pays for sidewalks?
Can you include art opportunity?

Need to redeploy the crosswalk.

WSJA is interested in doing smaller scale programming in addition to the big events like West Seattle Festival.

All paving should be accessible. The old murals may not be appropriate to the newer architecture.

There will be more dogs.

Lots of pedestrian traffic on alley.

Discussion about Funding Priority?

Maybe entry from alley.

Is a fountain important?
Sustainability and low maintenance saves money over the long run.

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Maybe use ground covers instead of grass to reduce maintenance.

The paving seems appropriate as urban park.
Maybe some green space.

Lighting is important due to safety but – It may be way down the list.

Maybe standard lighting instead of accent lighting.

Is there a way to have people fund stuff that they are interested in seeing in the park?

Need sidewalks now, lighting, and something that screens the Alaska House.

Maybe pave the circle areas later.

Could always add trees later.

Conclusions

- Aside from all the comments, attendees liked the direction the design was going.
- Parks and the consultant will work on options to reduce costs and begin talking with the WSJA about fundraising.
- Design Commission review on December 7.
- Park Board Hearing on January 25 and recommendation to the Superintendent on February 8.
- Fundraising will occur through March.
- Final design meeting after we establish funding in March.