Capitol Hill Design Guidelines Update - Work Group meeting #1

Meeting Summary

June 14th, 2017

Meeting Attendees

Work Group Members			
Lesley Bain Brian Baker	Don Blakeney Jess Blanch	McCaela Daffern John Feit	Mike Mariano Erik Rundell
Matthew Benedict	Lana Blinderman	Whitney Fraser	Saunatina Sanchez
Matthew Deficatet		Whithey Haser	
Staff			
Christina Ghan (SDCI)	Aaron Hursey (OPCD)	Janet Shull (OPCD)	
Additional Attendees			
None			

On June 14th, 2017, the first work group session was held at 12th Ave Arts (1620 12th Ave) in the Capitol Hill neighborhood of Seattle. The meeting was cohosted by the City of Seattle's Office of Planning & Community Development (OPCD) and Department of Construction & Inspections (SDCI) and Capitol Hill Housing Ecodistrict. The work group, which consists of over a dozen renters, homeowners, and business owners who live and/or work in the Capitol Hill Neighborhood, will help with the update/revision of the the current Capitol Hill Neighborhood Guidelines. The goals of the first meeting were to provide an overview of the history and context of city-wide guidelines and neighborhood guidelines, introduce the role of design guidelines for the Capitol Hill Urban Center Village.

The meeting was attended by 12 work group members, and 3 city employees. The meeting was facilitated by McCaela Daffern, of Capitol Hill Housing, and Janet Shull, of OPCD, and Christina Ghan, of SDCI. The meeting began with McCaela and Janet explaining the reasons for revising the existing Capitol Hill Neighborhood Design Guidelines. Work group members and staff then introduced themselves and discussed future meeting dates and times. McCaela then led the group in an "ice-breaker" discussion where each member and staff discussed their favorite place, street, and/or corridor in the Capitol Hill neighborhood.

The discussion was then followed by a brief presentation by Janet Shull explaining the role of city-wide, downtown, and neighborhood specific guidelines. Janet and Christina then reviewed information provided in each work group member's binder. The binder included draft ground rules for group review, a work group roster, project schedule, and the existing city-wide and neighborhood guidelines.

Staff members then facilitated discussion with work group members addressing issues with the current design guidelines, followed by members identifying ideas and goals for the updated design guidelines to address. Ideas included the incorporation of cultural experiences within neighborhood planning, sustainability elements, and addressing the community engagement process. As wrap up, work group members were reminded about a brief reading assignment to prepare for the July work group meeting.