



APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Mike McGinn
Mayor

Diane Sugimura
Director, DPD

Marshall Foster
Planning Director, DPD

Julie Bassuk
Chair

Seth Geiser

Laurel Kunkler

Shannon Loew

Tom Nelson

Julie Parrett

Osama Quotah

Ellen Sollod

Debbie Harris

Valerie Kinast
Coordinator

Tom Iurino
Senior Staff

January 17, 2013

Convened 8:30am
Adjourned 4:30pm

Projects Reviewed

Mapes Creek Restoration and 52nd Ave CSO
Arena Street Vacation
Elliott Bay Seawall

Commissioners Present

Julie Parrett, Chair
Seth Geiser
Lolly Kunkler (excused from 9:00am-11:00am)
Shannon Loew
Tom Nelson
Osama Quotah
Ellen Sollod

Commissioners Awaiting Confirmation Present

Martin Regge

Commissioners Excused

Debbie Harris
Julie Bassuk

Staff Present

Valerie Kinast
Tom Iurino



**Department of Planning
and Development**
700 5th Avenue, Suite 2000
PO Box 34019
Seattle, WA 98124-4019

TEL 206-615-1349
FAX 206-233-7883



January 17, 2013	Project:	Elliott Bay Seawall Project
	Phase:	60% Design
	Last Reviewed:	Sep 6, 2012; Jul 26, 2011; Mar 17, 2011; Feb 3, 2011; Dec 2, 2010; Oct 7, 2010;
	Presenters:	Jessica Murphy, SDOT Drew Gagnes, Magnusson Klemencic Associates Tatiana Chouluka, James Corner Field Operations
	Attendees:	Amy Meyer, Enviro Issues Andrew tenBrink, James Corner Field Operations Dave Warner, Parsons Grace Tang, James Corner Field Operations

Time: 2:00pm-4:00pm

Disclosure

Commissioner Parrett used to work for James Corner Field Operations.
Commissioner Kunkler is on the production team.

Summary of Project Presentation

The Elliott Bay Seawall project will replace the three types of deteriorated seawall structures along the waterfront, constructed between 1916 and 1934, which range in size from approximately 15 to 60 feet wide. The city plans to replace the most deteriorated sections of the central seawall as phase one beginning in late 2013, with a second phase of work for the northern seawall following as funding is available. The central seawall is between S. Washington Street (just south of the Washington Street Boat Landing) and Virginia Street (at the northern edge of Pier 62/63), and the north seawall is from Virginia Street north to Broad Street (just south of Olympic Sculpture Park). The new seawall's "service life" will be approximately 100 years. It will meet current safety and design standards, enhance habitat, and be designed in concert with planning for a new waterfront. The first phase's construction will start in 2013 and end in 2016.

The first phase, the central seawall, is broken into four zones. Zone 1 includes the beach proposed in the waterfront plan at Washington St, and the new seawall would be located 15 ft. east of where it is now. The beach features riparian plantings and does not emphasize recreation due to shoreline master plan rules. Zone 2 is adjacent to Coleman Dock, with the seawall 15 ft east of where it is now. Zone 3 stretches north to Waterfront Park, with the seawall 10-15 ft east of where it is now. Zone 4 is along Waterfront Park, the Aquarium and Pier 62/63, and the seawall would be about 10 ft east of where it is now. Along the seawall, sidewalks will cantilever out over the water and "shelves" would extend out below that to provide habitat. The project includes adaptation to sea level rises. The seawall will be built using jet grout technology, which is less disruptive than other methods of construction, performs better in seismic events, and is more cost effective.

The development of the public realm along the seawall will occur in two phases; first as the restored promenade, and second as the waterfront promenade which will be built when the viaduct is torn down. The restored promenade is typically 18-29' wide, and features a minimum 3' wide impediment free area,

a minimum of 18' wide contiguous sidewalk, and a minimum 3.5' wide joint plate. The pattern of the ground plane is based on 4' widths. Three of the 4' widths, or 12' of the contiguous sidewalk, will be made of translucent panels which will allow light to penetrate below to the water. One of the 4' widths, which will lie east of the translucent panels, will be a seawall stone. The joint plate will be made of textured steel. Other elements of the restored promenade include: stepped seating that leads to a beach at Pioneer Square; temporary seating; and temporary planting containers that serve as nurseries. The materials for these elements are sustainable.

The commissioners' discussion centered on: how translucent the panels were and whether the z-ribs were visible; the patterning of the translucent panels and how they relate to the patterning of the metal grating at Colman Dock and whether an artist would be involved in selecting the patterns; the sourcing of the materials and the degree to which they were sustainable; and opportunities for lighting.

ACTION (by Kunkler)

The Seattle Design Commission approved, by a vote of 7-0, the 60% design of the Elliott Bay Seawall Project. The commission appreciated the clear presentation and had the following recommendations:

- **Study whether the Z ribs may be seen through the translucent sidewalk panels. If so, make a conscious decision about how to address their expression, pattern and visibility in the design. Also, consider more clearly expressing the cantilevered nature of the structure.**
- **Consider the life cycle, sourcing and sustainability of the materials. For example, use a local material for the rock used for the stone pavement strip. Find another, more environmentally friendly material to use than the wood/plastic material; it is a downcycled and not a recycled material. Consider uses for materials that can be reclaimed, such as the beetle damaged wood and the guard rail. Consider how the fill used at the beach could be procured in a sustainable way. Make an inventory of reusable materials and share it so that others may use them.**
- **Consider more variation in the translucent panels so that they do not become too uniform. Consider opportunities to see down through the panels and develop expressions of light and fun. Study how the panels relate to the metal grating at Colman Dock and form a continuous and integrated design.**
- **Study the opportunities for uplighting.**
- **Consider how to take advantage of the container nursery. For example, use it to nurture plants that have a long, slow growth period. Document the findings as educational resource.**
- **Further study signage, furniture, and lighting. Make your intentions clear, even if they are not being designed now.**

Commissioner Kunkler abstained from the vote.