



**SECOND EARLY DESIGN GUIDANCE OF THE
NORTHEAST DESIGN REVIEW BOARD**

Record Number: 3034560-EG
Address: 3839/3831 Stone Way N.
Applicant: Veer Architecture
Date of Meeting: Monday, January 06, 2020
Board Members Present: Brian Bishop (acting chair)
Katy Haima
Tim Carter
Dan Rusler
Board Members Absent: James Marria
SDCI Staff Present: Sean Conrad

SITE & VICINITY

Site Zone: Neighborhood
Commercial 2 /75-foot height limit [NC2-75(M1)]

Nearby Zones: (North) NC3P-55(M)
(South) NC2-75(M1)
(East) NC2-55(M)
(West) NC2-75(M1)

Lot Area: 21,833 square feet



Current Development:

The project site is comprised of two parcels developed with commercial structures. The site has one driveway along Stone Way N. serving associated off-street parking for the building at 3831 Stone Way N. and the commercial building at 3837 Stone Way N. Two driveways are located on N. 39th Street serving the building and parking at 3839 Stone Way N.

Surrounding Development and Neighborhood Character:

The surrounding development and neighborhood character consists of a variety of uses and architectural styles including low-rise workshops and warehouses and multi-story, multiple-family structures along Stone Way N. The immediate area along Stone Way N. has experienced significant redevelopment in the last 10 years.

Access:

Vehicle and pedestrian access to the site are provided by Stone Way N. on the site's east side and N. 39th Street on the site's north side.

Environmentally Critical Areas:

There are no mapped environmental critical areas on or adjacent to the site.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Design Review Early Design Guidance for a 7-story, 146-unit apartment building with retail. Parking for 77 vehicles proposed. Existing building to be demolished.

The design packet includes information presented at the meeting, and is available online by entering the record number at this website:

<http://www.seattle.gov/DPD/aboutus/news/events/DesignReview/SearchPastReviews/default.aspx>

The packet is also available to view in the file, by contacting the Public Resource Center at SDCI:

Mailing Public Resource Center

Address: 700 Fifth Ave., Suite 2000

P.O. Box 34019

Seattle, WA 98124-4019

Email: PRC@seattle.gov

FIRST EARLY DESIGN GUIDANCE MEETING October 28, 2019**PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following public comments were offered at this meeting:

- Agreed with the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) memo that providing a driveway onto Stone Way N. is a poor choice due to the high volume of pedestrian and bicycle traffic along Stone Way N.
- Appreciated the scale of redevelopment and the proposed rounded corner

- Suggested the building design should be cohesive with the changing neighborhood
- Supported the departure request provided it adds to the overall building design
- Concerned the height of the garage off of N. 39th Street would be too low to accommodate moving trucks
- Concerned that a driveway on Stone Way N. could lead to moving trucks blocking the sidewalk
- Appreciated the proposed designs and noted the beveled corner design looks good
- Supported the building design; however, stated it appears out of scale with other buildings in the area and the proposed building is too tall.

The purpose of the design review process is for the Board and City to receive comments from the public that help to identify feedback and concerns about the site and design concept, identify applicable citywide and neighborhood design guidelines of highest priority to the site and explore conceptual design, siting alternatives and eventual architectural design. While a number of public comments provided feedback on design, comments that include concerns about moving truck staging and cell phone reception are not within the scope of this review.

All public comments submitted in writing for this project can be viewed using the following link and entering the record number: <http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/>

PRIORITIES & BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

After visiting the site, considering the analysis of the site and context provided by the proponents, and hearing public comment, the Design Review Board members provided the following siting and design guidance.

1. Massing

- a. The Board discussed the lack of an overall design concept provided in the early design packet. With a lack of a building design concept, the Board members had trouble understanding the relationship of the three proposed building designs with the adjacent buildings and neighborhood. The Board discussed the need for the early design packet to provide a better history of the design transitions in the immediate neighborhood and how the three massing options respond to the identified design transitions. The Board was supportive of option 3, however, the Board members requested further context analysis of the design and requested the applicant provide an entirely new massing option based on further context analysis of the neighborhood. With the updated packet for the second EDG meeting the Board requested the following:
 - A clear context analysis of the neighborhood (building patterns and forms) demonstrating how the two massing options respond to the neighborhood context, or the lack of response and the reasons why. (CS2.A, CS2.B, CS2.C, CS2.D)
 - Provide additional information on the floor plans for each of the options, necessary for the Board to provide feedback on the which option best responds to site planning and Design Guidelines. The floor plans need to include uses, layouts, and floor circulation. The floor plans also need to include critical length and width dimensions for the commercial and residential entries located at the

street level, in addition to distances from property lines. (CS2.A, CS2.B, CS2.C, CS2.D)

- b. The Board requested further evaluation and design callouts relating to the building's response to the angled streets in the immediate area, with Board members noting the northwest corner of the site was just as important as the northeast corner. (CS2.C)
- c. The Board agreed with public comments suggesting the proposed building heights were significantly different than current buildings in the neighborhood. The Board members noted there was a strong 4-5 story building datum in the immediate neighborhood and the proposed building massing options should provide a response to the adjacent building datums. (CS2.D)
- d. The Board requested the applicant look at how the building's design could embrace the parcel flanked by this proposal (3837 Stone Way N.), with details in the courtyard space and building facades facing that parcel. (CS2.D, CS3.A)
- e. During the Board's discussion on option 3, Board members noted the design has an opportunity to set up an attic story and incorporate outdoor space at that level. The Board members suggested that this may be something the applicant explore in providing further resolution in the massing design of this option. The Board members also appreciated the chamfered edges of the building as you turn from Stone Way N. to N. 39th Street. They thought the applicant could further explore this design, noting that two different datum lines could be needed for each street. The Board noted the setbacks along Stone Way N. on option 3 were appropriate given the context of the neighborhood and should be maintained. (CS2.C)

2. Access

- a. Following public comments and SDOT comments, the Board strongly supported vehicular access off of N. 39th Street. The Board acknowledged the existing driveway and access easement off of Stone Way N., serving the building at 3837 Stone Way N., needed to remain. However, the Board requested further details of how the proposed buildings would interface with the access easement as it relates to the building's architectural concept. The Board also wanted to have a better understanding of any screening elements/gates would be provided across the access easement. (DC1.B, DC2.A)

3. Building Façade

- a. The Board had concerns about the treatment of the west building facade. Along with the context analysis and updated massing options, the Board requested the 2nd EDG packet identify what areas of the west façade would be blank walls. The Board noted the northwest corner of the building is too prominent of a corner to just leave as a blank wall since the façade is so highly visible. The Board suggested introducing secondary architectural elements into this façade that would be integrated in the overall design of the building. It was also suggested by Board members that incorporating recessed or

projecting balconies in this façade could be an appropriate response to avoid a blank wall condition. (DC2.B)

SECOND EARLY DESIGN GUIDANCE MEETING January 6, 2020

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following public comments were offered at this meeting:

- Stated that the building will be setting a new context in the neighborhood due to its increased height and suggested the applicant/developer attend a neighborhood council meeting to view and discuss the project.
- Noted that this neighborhood is very walkable and the uses along the street, especially commercial uses along Stone Way, should activate the street. Suggested the residential lobby should be located off of N. 39th Street.
- Suggested the trash collection and vehicle access be provided off of N. 39th Street.
- Suggested the massing of the building should appropriately respond to the neighborhood context.
- Questioned how user friendly, safe, and inviting the open space proposed around the out-parcel will really be.
- Concerned that the building will use poor materials that will not wear well over time.
- It was suggested the applicant meet with the Fremont neighborhood council to discuss the project prior to going back to the Board.

In addition to the public comment received at the meeting the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) provided a memo dated December 30, 2019 which includes the following points for the Board to consider:

- Supported the project's vehicle access consolidated to N 39th St.
- Provided information on solid waste collection from SDOT perspective. Further collaboration is needed between SDOT and SPU, including details on planned container size, volume, and frequency as it relates to staging space.
- Provided comments that the ROW Improvement Manual standards do not support the alternative sidewalk scoring in the pedestrian clear zone. This detail will be further reviewed in the SIP process.

The purpose of the design review process is for the Board and City to receive comments from the public that help to identify feedback and concerns about the site and design concept, identify applicable citywide and neighborhood design guidelines of highest priority to the site and explore conceptual design, siting alternatives and eventual architectural design.

All public comments submitted in writing for this project can be viewed using the following link and entering the record number: <http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/>

PRIORITIES & BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

After visiting the site, considering the analysis of the site and context provided by the proponents, and hearing public comment, the Design Review Board members provided the following siting and design guidance.

1. Response to first EDG meeting guidance

- a. The Board appreciated the applicant's updates to the design packet, however, the Board members noted the packet did not provide the contextual synopsis on how the proposed options fit into the neighborhood. Based on the lack of in-depth analysis the Board members commented on how it was difficult to provide guidance when it was unclear how the proposed massing options are responding to the immediate neighborhood context of Stone Way. The Board members further noted there was an opportunity missed regarding how the base of the building would interact at the street level along Stone Way. The Board requested a strong building concept based on the neighborhood analysis and guidance be provided at an additional EDG meeting. (CS2-A, CS2-B, CS2-C)
- b. In agreement with public comment, the Board had concerns about the organization and location of street level uses. The Board recommended the applicant consolidate uses (commercial uses, service uses, residential entries) along the street level to concentrate active uses for better street activation along Stone Way, create one primary residential entry point for the building and locate the trash collection on the north end of the site at an appropriate location. (DC1-A, DC2-E)
- c. Board members also requested clarity about the building's base, noting the next EDG packet should include a design rationale for a one-story expression or a two-story expression. Along with this analysis the Board requested the updated EDG packet include a study of how the base expression works with the datum lines of the adjacent building and how the base and upper floors can be vertically integrated through building elements to stitch together the top and bottom of the building. The Board specified that having a six-story building over a podium base was not an appropriate design response to nearby context. (DC1-A, DC2-E)
- c. The Board requested the applicant explore expanding the commercial space at the northeast corner and wrapping the commercial space around the corner to the proposed driveway along N. 39th Street. The Board also recommended the residential entry should be off of Stone Way in the southeast corner of the building. As part of these changes the Board requested the applicant include studies of how the change in the residential lobby at the SE corner would work with the overall project design. (PL3-A, PL3-C)
- d. It was unclear to the Board members how the modulation of the building enhanced the overall massing of the building, with Board members noting that the building moves seemed forced on the building creating a geometry resulting in a "neurotic" and bulky massing design. The Board directed the applicant to design the modulation and articulation to respond to the context in this neighborhood along Stone Way N. (DC2-A, DC2-E)

2. Outparcel (3837 Stone Way N)

- a. The Board commented that both design options were still struggling to adequately address the “outparcel” that is not part of this development. The Board members noted the proposed designs still treat the outparcel as an afterthought. The Board requested sections of the outparcel and how it relates to the building and open spaces in the next EDG packet. (CS2-B, CS3-A-1)

3. Massing

- a. The Board discussed how they were still struggling with the proposed building massing relating to the context analysis provided in the packet. The Board noted how there was a lack of a clear architectural concept and suggested more meaningful moves be introduced into the building to better fit within the neighborhood. The Board discussed the number of massing cues in the neighborhood that could be integrated into this project to make it successful, especially at the upper level massing. The Board noted that many massing moves were added to the proposed options shown at the Second EDG meeting, but there continued to be a lack of a focal point or cohesive design concept in any of the options. (CS2-D)

4. Building design

- a. The Board noted that option 3’s open space at the ground level was heading in the right direction and suggested the open space be pushed towards the street. The Board thought pushing the open space towards the street would be used by residents and visitors and could be incorporated as part of the commercial business located along Stone Way. The Board noted the relocated open space would help to promote street level uses and encourage street level interaction along Stone Way. Based on this guidance the Board requested the applicant provide a study in the next EDG packet of how moving the open space at the ground level between the commercial space at the northeast corner of the building and the outparcel could be successfully achieved. (DC3-A, DC3-B)
- b. The Board recommended an additional EDG meeting to consider a single option developed in response to the Board’s guidance from the Second EDG meeting, including the following: (DC2-B, DC2-C, DC2-D)
 1. Explore the opportunity for corner windows to increase light and livability for the units, reduce the appearance of bulk, and relate to nearby context.
 2. The corner of the building should engage Stone Way N.
 3. Explore maintaining the chamfers at the northwest corner to help in shaping and providing form to the building’s edges.
 4. Continue to carve the building at the corners and design the facades with a deliberate and consistent treatment on the building.
 5. Reorganize the interior of the building to place the stairway and elevator columns in the interior of the building, not the exterior as shown at the Second EDG meeting.
 6. Provide depth in the façade design with details that provide the building with shadow lines and avoid a flat façade.

7. The consistent application of openings was done well as shown at the Second EDG meeting. The Board noted the building can benefit by grouping and sizing the scale of the opening at the corner building elements.

5. Trash location

- a. The Board reiterated its strong support to have the trash staging area off of N. 39th Street. The Board requested the applicant work with Seattle Public Utilities and create a trash room within 50-feet of N. 39th Street so garbage service could collect the dumpsters from the building and return them immediately so that the dumpster were not left out on the street. The Board again noted that Stone Way N is not appropriate for trash service as it is used as a primary pedestrian and bicycle street in the neighborhood. (DC1-C)

6. Materials

- a. The Board members noted that application of large fiber cement (Hardie-panel) siding was not an appropriate material for the blank wall conditions on the building. If fiber cement panels are incorporated, the Board discouraged the use of large fiber cement panels, requested their use be minimized, and the panels include integral color materials. The Board recommended the use of high-quality materials that have an inherent texture to help further break down the scale of the building as appropriate for this site. (DC4-A)

7. Landscape

- a. With the Board's direction to relocate the open space at the ground level closer to the street, the Board encouraged the applicant to use different tiles or pavers on-site to differentiate the public and private spaces. The Board also gave guidance to integrate raised planters on-site instead of within the right-of-way to allow for a wider public sidewalk. (DC4-D)

8. Building Façade

- a. The Board had concerns about the treatment of the west building façade, noting the northwest corner of the building is too prominent and visible of a corner to just leave as a blank wall. The Board gave guidance to introduce secondary architectural elements, high-quality materials, and/or art or other innovative treatment into this façade and integrate this in the overall design of the building. (DC2-B)

In agreement with public comment, at the conclusion of the meeting Board members encouraged the applicant to meet with the neighborhood council prior to returning to the Board.

DEVELOPMENT STANDARD DEPARTURES

The Board's recommendation on the requested departure will be based on the departure's potential to help the project better meet these design guidelines priorities and achieve a better overall project design than could be achieved without the departure. The Board's recommendation will be reserved until the final Board meeting.

At the time of the Second Early Design Guidance meeting the following departure was requested for the new Option 2:

- 1. Setback Requirements (SMC 23.47A.014.C.3):** The Code requires that no more than 20% of the structure can have a setback of less than 5-feet from the front property line for the portions of the building above 65-feet. The applicant proposes 27% of the upper level façade has a setback of less than 5’ at Stone Way N.

The Board stated they were not inclined to support the requested departure at this time noting that the proposed departure, in the Board’s opinion, was not creating a better building design that better meets the intent of the Design Guidelines.

The Board stated they could potentially support a departure request based on revised architectural concepts in response to the design issues discussed during the Second EDG meeting including appropriately mitigating the bulk and scale of the building, providing an overall architectural concept of the building, and use of appropriate and high-quality materials. (DC2-A, CS2-D)

DESIGN REVIEW GUIDELINES

The Seattle Design Guidelines and Neighborhood Design Guidelines recognized by the Board as Priority Guidelines are identified above. All guidelines remain applicable and are summarized below. For the full text please visit the [Design Review website](#).

CONTEXT & SITE

CS1 Natural Systems and Site Features: Use natural systems/features of the site and its surroundings as a starting point for project design.

CS1-A Energy Use

CS1-A-1. Energy Choices: At the earliest phase of project development, examine how energy choices may influence building form, siting, and orientation, and factor in the findings when making siting and design decisions.

CS1-B Sunlight and Natural Ventilation

CS1-B-1. Sun and Wind: Take advantage of solar exposure and natural ventilation. Use local wind patterns and solar gain to reduce the need for mechanical ventilation and heating where possible.

CS1-B-2. Daylight and Shading: Maximize daylight for interior and exterior spaces and minimize shading on adjacent sites through the placement and/or design of structures on site.

CS1-B-3. Managing Solar Gain: Manage direct sunlight falling on south and west facing facades through shading devices and existing or newly planted trees.

CS1-C Topography

CS1-C-1. Land Form: Use natural topography and desirable landforms to inform project design.

CS1-C-2. Elevation Changes: Use the existing site topography when locating structures and open spaces on the site.

CS1-D Plants and Habitat

CS1-D-1. On-Site Features: Incorporate on-site natural habitats and landscape elements into project design and connect those features to existing networks of open spaces and natural habitats wherever possible. Consider relocating significant trees and vegetation if retention is not feasible.

CS1-D-2. Off-Site Features: Provide opportunities through design to connect to off-site habitats such as riparian corridors or existing urban forest corridors. Promote continuous habitat, where possible, and increase interconnected corridors of urban forest and habitat where possible.

CS1-E Water

CS1-E-1. Natural Water Features: If the site includes any natural water features, consider ways to incorporate them into project design, where feasible

CS1-E-2. Adding Interest with Project Drainage: Use project drainage systems as opportunities to add interest to the site through water-related design elements.

CS2 Urban Pattern and Form: Strengthen the most desirable forms, characteristics, and patterns of the streets, block faces, and open spaces in the surrounding area.

CS2-A Location in the City and Neighborhood

CS2-A-1. Sense of Place: Emphasize attributes that give a distinctive sense of place. Design the building and open spaces to enhance areas where a strong identity already exists, and create a sense of place where the physical context is less established.

CS2-A-2. Architectural Presence: Evaluate the degree of visibility or architectural presence that is appropriate or desired given the context, and design accordingly.

CS2-B Adjacent Sites, Streets, and Open Spaces

CS2-B-1. Site Characteristics: Allow characteristics of sites to inform the design, especially where the street grid and topography create unusually shaped lots that can add distinction to the building massing.

CS2-B-2. Connection to the Street: Identify opportunities for the project to make a strong connection to the street and public realm.

CS2-B-3. Character of Open Space: Contribute to the character and proportion of surrounding open spaces.

CS2-C Relationship to the Block

CS2-C-1. Corner Sites: Corner sites can serve as gateways or focal points; both require careful detailing at the first three floors due to their high visibility from two or more streets and long distances.

CS2-C-2. Mid-Block Sites: Look to the uses and scales of adjacent buildings for clues about how to design a mid-block building. Continue a strong street-edge and respond to datum lines of adjacent buildings at the first three floors.

CS2-C-3. Full Block Sites: Break up long facades of full-block buildings to avoid a monolithic presence. Provide detail and human scale at street-level, and include repeating elements to add variety and rhythm to the façade and overall building design.

CS2-D Height, Bulk, and Scale

CS2-D-1. Existing Development and Zoning: Review the height, bulk, and scale of neighboring buildings as well as the scale of development anticipated by zoning for the area to determine an appropriate complement and/or transition.

CS2-D-2. Existing Site Features: Use changes in topography, site shape, and vegetation or structures to help make a successful fit with adjacent properties.

CS2-D-3. Zone Transitions: For projects located at the edge of different zones, provide an appropriate transition or complement to the adjacent zone(s). Projects should create a step in perceived height, bulk and scale between the anticipated development potential of the adjacent zone and the proposed development.

CS2-D-4. Massing Choices: Strive for a successful transition between zones where a project abuts a less intense zone.

CS2-D-5. Respect for Adjacent Sites: Respect adjacent properties with design and site planning to minimize disrupting the privacy of residents in adjacent buildings.

CS3 Architectural Context and Character: Contribute to the architectural character of the neighborhood.

CS3-A Emphasizing Positive Neighborhood Attributes

CS3-A-1. Fitting Old and New Together: Create compatibility between new projects, and existing architectural context, including historic and modern designs, through building articulation, scale and proportion, roof forms, detailing, fenestration, and/or the use of complementary materials.

CS3-A-2. Contemporary Design: Explore how contemporary designs can contribute to the development of attractive new forms and architectural styles; as expressed through use of new materials or other means.

CS3-A-3. Established Neighborhoods: In existing neighborhoods with a well-defined architectural character, site and design new structures to complement or be compatible with the architectural style and siting patterns of neighborhood buildings.

CS3-A-4. Evolving Neighborhoods: In neighborhoods where architectural character is evolving or otherwise in transition, explore ways for new development to establish a positive and desirable context for others to build upon in the future.

CS3-B Local History and Culture

CS3-B-1. Placemaking: Explore the history of the site and neighborhood as a potential placemaking opportunity. Look for historical and cultural significance, using neighborhood groups and archives as resources.

CS3-B-2. Historical/Cultural References: Reuse existing structures on the site where feasible as a means of incorporating historical or cultural elements into the new project.

PUBLIC LIFE

PL1 Connectivity: Complement and contribute to the network of open spaces around the site and the connections among them.

PL1-A Network of Open Spaces

PL1-A-1. Enhancing Open Space: Design the building and open spaces to positively contribute to a broader network of open spaces throughout the neighborhood.

PL1-A-2. Adding to Public Life: Seek opportunities to foster human interaction through an increase in the size and quality of project-related open space available for public life.

PL1-B Walkways and Connections

PL1-B-1. Pedestrian Infrastructure: Connect on-site pedestrian walkways with existing public and private pedestrian infrastructure, thereby supporting pedestrian connections within and outside the project.

PL1-B-2. Pedestrian Volumes: Provide ample space for pedestrian flow and circulation, particularly in areas where there is already heavy pedestrian traffic or where the project is expected to add or attract pedestrians to the area.

PL1-B-3. Pedestrian Amenities: Opportunities for creating lively, pedestrian oriented open spaces to enliven the area and attract interest and interaction with the site and building should be considered.

PL1-C Outdoor Uses and Activities

PL1-C-1. Selecting Activity Areas: Concentrate activity areas in places with sunny exposure, views across spaces, and in direct line with pedestrian routes.

PL1-C-2. Informal Community Uses: In addition to places for walking and sitting, consider including space for informal community use such as performances, farmer's markets, kiosks and community bulletin boards, cafes, or street vending.

PL1-C-3. Year-Round Activity: Where possible, include features in open spaces for activities beyond daylight hours and throughout the seasons of the year, especially in neighborhood centers where active open space will contribute vibrancy, economic health, and public safety.

PL2 Walkability: Create a safe and comfortable walking environment that is easy to navigate and well-connected to existing pedestrian walkways and features.

PL2-A Accessibility

PL2-A-1. Access for All: Provide access for people of all abilities in a manner that is fully integrated into the project design. Design entries and other primary access points such that all visitors can be greeted and welcomed through the front door.

PL2-A-2. Access Challenges: Add features to assist pedestrians in navigating sloped sites, long blocks, or other challenges.

PL2-B Safety and Security

PL2-B-1. Eyes on the Street: Create a safe environment by providing lines of sight and encouraging natural surveillance.

PL2-B-2. Lighting for Safety: Provide lighting at sufficient lumen intensities and scales, including pathway illumination, pedestrian and entry lighting, and/or security lights.

PL2-B-3. Street-Level Transparency: Ensure transparency of street-level uses (for uses such as nonresidential uses or residential lobbies), where appropriate, by keeping views open into spaces behind walls or plantings, at corners, or along narrow passageways.

PL2-C Weather Protection

PL2-C-1. Locations and Coverage: Overhead weather protection is encouraged and should be located at or near uses that generate pedestrian activity such as entries, retail uses, and transit stops.

PL2-C-2. Design Integration: Integrate weather protection, gutters and downspouts into the design of the structure as a whole, and ensure that it also relates well to neighboring buildings in design, coverage, or other features.

PL2-C-3. People-Friendly Spaces: Create an artful and people-friendly space beneath building.

PL2-D Wayfinding

PL2-D-1. Design as Wayfinding: Use design features as a means of wayfinding wherever possible.

PL3 Street-Level Interaction: Encourage human interaction and activity at the street-level with clear connections to building entries and edges.

PL3-A Entries

PL3-A-1. Design Objectives: Design primary entries to be obvious, identifiable, and distinctive with clear lines of sight and lobbies visually connected to the street.

PL3-A-2. Common Entries: Multi-story residential buildings need to provide privacy and security for residents but also be welcoming and identifiable to visitors.

PL3-A-3. Individual Entries: Ground-related housing should be scaled and detailed appropriately to provide for a more intimate type of entry.

PL3-A-4. Ensemble of Elements: Design the entry as a collection of coordinated elements including the door(s), overhead features, ground surface, landscaping, lighting, and other features.

PL3-B Residential Edges

PL3-B-1. Security and Privacy: Provide security and privacy for residential buildings through the use of a buffer or semi-private space between the development and the street or neighboring buildings.

PL3-B-2. Ground-level Residential: Privacy and security issues are particularly important in buildings with ground-level housing, both at entries and where windows are located overlooking the street.

PL3-B-3. Buildings with Live/Work Uses: Maintain active and transparent facades in the design of live/work residences. Design the first floor so it can be adapted to other commercial use as needed in the future.

PL3-B-4. Interaction: Provide opportunities for interaction among residents and neighbors.

PL3-C Retail Edges

PL3-C-1. Porous Edge: Engage passersby with opportunities to interact visually with the building interior using glazing and transparency. Create multiple entries where possible and make a physical and visual connection between people on the sidewalk and retail activities in the building.

PL3-C-2. Visibility: Maximize visibility into the building interior and merchandise displays. Consider fully operational glazed wall-sized doors that can be completely opened to the street, increased height in lobbies, and/or special lighting for displays.

PL3-C-3. Ancillary Activities: Allow space for activities such as sidewalk vending, seating, and restaurant dining to occur. Consider setting structures back from the street or incorporating space in the project design into which retail uses can extend.

PL4 Active Transportation: Incorporate design features that facilitate active forms of transportation such as walking, bicycling, and use of transit.

PL4-A Entry Locations and Relationships

PL4-A-1. Serving all Modes of Travel: Provide safe and convenient access points for all modes of travel.

PL4-A-2. Connections to All Modes: Site the primary entry in a location that logically relates to building uses and clearly connects all major points of access.

PL4-B Planning Ahead for Bicyclists

PL4-B-1. Early Planning: Consider existing and future bicycle traffic to and through the site early in the process so that access and connections are integrated into the project along with other modes of travel.

PL4-B-2. Bike Facilities: Facilities such as bike racks and storage, bike share stations, shower facilities and lockers for bicyclists should be located to maximize convenience, security, and safety.

PL4-B-3. Bike Connections: Facilitate connections to bicycle trails and infrastructure around and beyond the project.

PL4-C Planning Ahead For Transit

PL4-C-1. Influence on Project Design: Identify how a transit stop (planned or built) adjacent to or near the site may influence project design, provide opportunities for placemaking.

PL4-C-2. On-site Transit Stops: If a transit stop is located onsite, design project-related pedestrian improvements and amenities so that they complement any amenities provided for transit riders.

PL4-C-3. Transit Connections: Where no transit stops are on or adjacent to the site, identify where the nearest transit stops and pedestrian routes are and include design features and connections within the project design as appropriate.

DESIGN CONCEPT

DC1 Project Uses and Activities: Optimize the arrangement of uses and activities on site.

DC1-A Arrangement of Interior Uses

DC1-A-1. Visibility: Locate uses and services frequently used by the public in visible or prominent areas, such as at entries or along the street front.

DC1-A-2. Gathering Places: Maximize the use of any interior or exterior gathering spaces.

DC1-A-3. Flexibility: Build in flexibility so the building can adapt over time to evolving needs, such as the ability to change residential space to commercial space as needed.

DC1-A-4. Views and Connections: Locate interior uses and activities to take advantage of views and physical connections to exterior spaces and uses.

DC1-B Vehicular Access and Circulation

DC1-B-1. Access Location and Design: Choose locations for vehicular access, service uses, and delivery areas that minimize conflict between vehicles and non-motorists

wherever possible. Emphasize use of the sidewalk for pedestrians, and create safe and attractive conditions for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers.

DC1-B-2. Facilities for Alternative Transportation: Locate facilities for alternative transportation in prominent locations that are convenient and readily accessible to expected users.

DC1-C Parking and Service Uses

DC1-C-1. Below-Grade Parking: Locate parking below grade wherever possible. Where a surface parking lot is the only alternative, locate the parking in rear or side yards, or on lower or less visible portions of the site.

DC1-C-2. Visual Impacts: Reduce the visual impacts of parking lots, parking structures, entrances, and related signs and equipment as much as possible.

DC1-C-3. Multiple Uses: Design parking areas to serve multiple uses such as children’s play space, outdoor gathering areas, sports courts, woonerf, or common space in multifamily projects.

DC1-C-4. Service Uses: Locate and design service entries, loading docks, and trash receptacles away from pedestrian areas or to a less visible portion of the site to reduce possible impacts of these facilities on building aesthetics and pedestrian circulation.

DC2 Architectural Concept: Develop an architectural concept that will result in a unified and functional design that fits well on the site and within its surroundings.

DC2-A Massing

DC2-A-1. Site Characteristics and Uses: Arrange the mass of the building taking into consideration the characteristics of the site and the proposed uses of the building and its open space.

DC2-A-2. Reducing Perceived Mass: Use secondary architectural elements to reduce the perceived mass of larger projects.

DC2-B Architectural and Facade Composition

DC2-B-1. Façade Composition: Design all building facades—including alleys and visible roofs— considering the composition and architectural expression of the building as a whole. Ensure that all facades are attractive and well-proportioned.

DC2-B-2. Blank Walls: Avoid large blank walls along visible façades wherever possible. Where expanses of blank walls, retaining walls, or garage facades are unavoidable, include uses or design treatments at the street level that have human scale and are designed for pedestrians.

DC2-C Secondary Architectural Features

DC2-C-1. Visual Depth and Interest: Add depth to facades where appropriate by incorporating balconies, canopies, awnings, decks, or other secondary elements into the façade design. Add detailing at the street level in order to create interest for the pedestrian and encourage active street life and window shopping (in retail areas).

DC2-C-2. Dual Purpose Elements: Consider architectural features that can be dual purpose— adding depth, texture, and scale as well as serving other project functions.

DC2-C-3. Fit With Neighboring Buildings: Use design elements to achieve a successful fit between a building and its neighbors.

DC2-D Scale and Texture

DC2-D-1. Human Scale: Incorporate architectural features, elements, and details that are of human scale into the building facades, entries, retaining walls, courtyards, and exterior spaces in a manner that is consistent with the overall architectural concept

DC2-D-2. Texture: Design the character of the building, as expressed in the form, scale, and materials, to strive for a fine-grained scale, or “texture,” particularly at the street level and other areas where pedestrians predominate.

DC2-E Form and Function

DC2-E-1. Legibility and Flexibility: Strive for a balance between building use legibility and flexibility. Design buildings such that their primary functions and uses can be readily determined from the exterior, making the building easy to access and understand. At the same time, design flexibility into the building so that it may remain useful over time even as specific programmatic needs evolve.

DC3 Open Space Concept: Integrate open space design with the building design so that they complement each other.

DC3-A Building-Open Space Relationship

DC3-A-1. Interior/Exterior Fit: Develop an open space concept in conjunction with the architectural concept to ensure that interior and exterior spaces relate well to each other and support the functions of the development.

DC3-B Open Space Uses and Activities

DC3-B-1. Meeting User Needs: Plan the size, uses, activities, and features of each open space to meet the needs of expected users, ensuring each space has a purpose and function.

DC3-B-2. Matching Uses to Conditions: Respond to changing environmental conditions such as seasonal and daily light and weather shifts through open space design and/or programming of open space activities.

DC3-B-3. Connections to Other Open Space: Site and design project-related open spaces to connect with, or enhance, the uses and activities of other nearby public open space where appropriate.

DC3-B-4. Multifamily Open Space: Design common and private open spaces in multifamily projects for use by all residents to encourage physical activity and social interaction.

DC3-C Design

DC3-C-1. Reinforce Existing Open Space: Where a strong open space concept exists in the neighborhood, reinforce existing character and patterns of street tree planting, buffers or treatment of topographic changes. Where no strong patterns exist, initiate a strong open space concept that other projects can build upon in the future.

DC3-C-2. Amenities/Features: Create attractive outdoor spaces suited to the uses envisioned for the project.

DC3-C-3. Support Natural Areas: Create an open space design that retains and enhances onsite natural areas and connects to natural areas that may exist off-site and may provide habitat for wildlife.

DC4 Exterior Elements and Finishes: Use appropriate and high quality elements and finishes for the building and its open spaces.

DC4-A Building Materials

DC4-A-1. Exterior Finish Materials: Building exteriors should be constructed of durable and maintainable materials that are attractive even when viewed up close. Materials that have texture, pattern, or lend themselves to a high quality of detailing are encouraged.

DC4-A-2. Climate Appropriateness: Select durable and attractive materials that will age well in Seattle’s climate, taking special care to detail corners, edges, and transitions.

DC4-B Signage

DC4-B-1. Scale and Character: Add interest to the streetscape with exterior signs and attachments that are appropriate in scale and character to the project and its environs.

DC4-B-2. Coordination with Project Design: Develop a signage plan within the context of architectural and open space concepts, and coordinate the details with façade design, lighting, and other project features to complement the project as a whole, in addition to the surrounding context.

DC4-C Lighting

DC4-C-1. Functions: Use lighting both to increase site safety in all locations used by pedestrians and to highlight architectural or landscape details and features such as entries, signs, canopies, plantings, and art.

DC4-C-2. Avoiding Glare: Design project lighting based upon the uses on and off site, taking care to provide illumination to serve building needs while avoiding off-site night glare and light pollution.

DC4-D Trees, Landscape, and Hardscape Materials

DC4-D-1. Choice of Plant Materials: Reinforce the overall architectural and open space design concepts through the selection of landscape materials.

DC4-D-2. Hardscape Materials: Use exterior courtyards, plazas, and other hard surfaced areas as an opportunity to add color, texture, and/or pattern and enliven public areas through the use of distinctive and durable paving materials. Use permeable materials wherever possible.

DC4-D-3. Long Range Planning: Select plants that upon maturity will be of appropriate size, scale, and shape to contribute to the site as intended.

DC4-D-4. Place Making: Create a landscape design that helps define spaces with significant elements such as trees.

DC4-E Project Assembly and Lifespan

DC4-E-1. Deconstruction: When possible, design the project so that it may be deconstructed at the end of its useful lifetime, with connections and assembly techniques that will allow reuse of materials.

BOARD DIRECTION

At the conclusion of the Second Early Design Guidance meeting, the Board recommended the project return for another meeting in response to the guidance provided.