



**Seattle
Design
Commission**

APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

18 July 2002

Gregory J. Nickels,
Mayor

Donald Royse
Chair

Tom Bykonen

Ralph Cipriani

Jack Mackie

Cary Moon

Iain M. Robertson

David Spiker

Sharon E. Sutton

Tory Laughlin Taylor

John Rahaim,
Executive Director

Layne Cubell,
Commission Coordinator

Projects Reviewed

Ravenna Creek Daylighting
Vacations Checklist Update
Monorail Discussion
High Point Community
Center Expansion
High Point Library
Meeting with Grace Crunican,
Director SDOT

Convened: 9:30am

Commissioners Present

Donald Royse, Chair
Jack Mackie, Vice Chair
Cary Moon
Iain M. Robertson
David Spiker
Sharon E. Sutton
Tory Laughlin Taylor

Staff Present

John Rahaim
Layne Cubell
Brad Gassman
Anna O'Connell

Adjourned: 5:30pm



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Construction & Land Use

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18 July 2002 Project: Ravenna Creek Daylighting

Phase: Conceptual Design

Presenters: Virginia Hassinger, Seattle Parks and Recreation
Peggy Gaynor, Gaynor Inc.

Attendees: Michael Shiosaki, Seattle Parks and Recreation

Time: 1 hour (SDC Ref. # 169 | DC00279)

Action: The Commission thanks the proponents for bringing this project before them and would like to make the following comments and recommendations.

- **The Design Commission appreciates the team's public process efforts to date;**
- **encourages a solution that celebrates the simplicity of the park;**
- **recommends that future presentations feature the existing conditions, an engineered solution and the most feasible options, as well as the ball fields in the upper and lower parts of the site;**
- **urges the design team to develop priorities and do one strong concept well rather than including too many disparate landscape elements or compromising both the creek and the ball field; and**
- **approves conceptual design.**

The original proposal for rerouting Ravenna Creek, initiated by Metro, was to take the creek out of the sewer and route it to Lake Washington via pipeline. In 2000, King County Executive Ron Sims and Mayor Schell recommended that the portion of the creek within Ravenna Park be daylighted and that the creek be put in a pipe at the edge of the park to flow to Lake Washington. At present, the creek rises in Cowen Park, flows through a ravine, and is then directed into a sewer line at the south end of Ravenna Park. King County is funding the project, while the City of Seattle is handling the design. Ravenna Park's existing amenities are playfields, a pool, and tennis courts; the creek must be designed around the playfields and allow current athletic uses to be maintained.

The Olmsteds designed the boulevard and Cowen Park around the turn of the century, at which time Ravenna Park was privately owned. Street car tracks around Ravenna Park and large trees within the park made it a well-used space with many visitors. The creek, which still has a small trout population, lost its original headwaters when Greenlake was lowered at the beginning of the last century.

In 1994 Metro proposed a design that showed the creek traveling along the edge of the lower playfield. The proponents noted, however, that building a creek around the existing ball field would result in a very short outfield, and the creek would be confined to a ditch. In response to public input at the workshops, Parks proposed moving the ball fields to the upper playfield. The proponents explored three design options:

1. Reorient the ball field on the lower portion of the site and bring Ravenna Creek through a meander area and then alongside the field. This scheme would require that there be 12'-15' high retaining wall around the ball field and would still compromise both the creek and the field.
2. Move the baseball field to the upper playfield, regrade the site to include a small soccer field, and create a meandering stream course. Public art would be installed at the park entrance and where the creek drops into a pipe.
3. Move the ball field to the upper playfield and use the entire lower field for the creek to

meander. Open meadow would be provided, but not large enough for scheduled games.

Public input from workshops favors a scheme that combines the features of Design 2 (entrance of the park and the connection of the creek to pipeline) with streambed features in Design 3. However, because the proposal to move the ball field involves land use changes and because users of the upper field were not informed of the developing proposal, no alternative has been chosen. Neighbors of the upper portion of the site object to moving the ball field. Their concerns include potential loss of a climbing tree located in the area, reduction of unprogrammed space, and impacts of the ball field including noise, safety, and parking problems. The proponents expect to conduct additional public process prior to selecting a final alternative.

Proponents expect to conduct biological assessments as part of the permitting process. Construction is scheduled to begin summer of 2003.

Key Commissioner Comments and Concerns

- Would like to know if proponents explored keeping the ball field where it is.
 - Proponents stated that that has been explored and would require a very large cut being made to accommodate the creek. The result would either be a wide creek corridor, or the creek would end up in a ditch with steep walls. Further stated that the creek would then go into the pipe in the outfield, which would leave no opportunity for the public art celebrating this junction.
 - Proponents stated that moving the field over improves the entrance and not moving the field does not allow a satisfactory solution for anyone.
- Would like to know if the fill could be used for the field and move the entire field west.
 - Proponents stated that this would result in the creek being about 30' below people, and in the public meetings people expressed interest in celebrating the creek and having boardwalks that allow them to interact with it.
- Would like to know if all the proposed grading is possible and feasible.
 - Proponents stated that it is.
- Is concerned that there is pressure from the community to put some of everything in the park and that simplicity of Ravenna Park will be lost. Urges the proponents to do one thing and do it well.
- Believes that there is a conflict between human activity and nature and that this concept can be followed through with human activity or nature. Encourages the proponents to not invest in compromise.
 - Proponents stated that they have considered making the park either active and organized or passive and natural.
- Feels that it is not really appropriate to celebrate the creek flowing into the pipe, but rather make the public art about mourning the loss of the creek.
 - Proponents agreed that that is what the public art piece will be. Further stated that most of the artist's work will focus outside the park.
- Would like to know if more detailed design studies were performed to determine how the ball field will fit on the upper part of the site.

- Proponents stated that studies have been done.
- Would like to know if the proposed design changes anything in the right-of-way outside the park.
 - Proponents stated that they are not addressing the right-of-way.
- Feels that there is no conflict between ball field and people who want to walk along the creek as they are both public uses. Believes that if there is not another alternative that is better, the park should be left as is.
 - Proponents stated that leaving the creek as it is isn't an option. The creek must be taken out of the sewer system because it has been overflowing; the creek must either be put in another, bigger pipe or daylighted.
- Suggests that at the next public meeting, the public should prioritize.
 - Proponents stated that the priority the public has stated is to have a more natural creek as long as the ball fields can be accommodated elsewhere.
- Encourages proponents to explore alternative variations on a theme and be more radical. Historically, the creek has been a less well-defined channel. Believes that this could be looked to in the creation of an alternative, such as a series of check dams rather than meanders. Urges team to think of the problem in a looser way; draw a plan with blue in the open spaces, so public can see spaces with water in them; and design landform through which water will flow.
- Believes that water leaving a site is a difficult design issue because it is a let down. Suggests team look at successful ways of doing so, such as the Piazza Navona where a dolphin rises out and swallows the stream. Urges proponents to find something that is representative of the place and that taps the sadness and celebration of the creek entering the pipe.

18 July 2002 Project: **Vacations Checklist Update**

Phase: Update

Attendee: Henry Aronson
Lyle Bicknell, CityDesign
Mike Lindblom, Seattle Times
Chris Leman, Eastlake resident

Time: .5 hour (SDC Ref. # 170 | DC00166)

Summary: **The Commission discussed the latest draft of the *Vacations Checklist* and decided that it needs further revision. The Commission proposes changes/edits for the checklist and clarified that the intention of the checklist is to serve as a guide for the Commission in its reviews as administrative policy.**

Key Visitor Comments and Concerns

- A concerned citizen believes that the checklist could be made public and that the Commission would benefit from receiving more public comment in its reviews. He went on to note that the CityDesign paper on street and alley vacations is weak on unimproved right-of-ways and that they need to be better protected by the City and considered in the City's vacation petition review process.
 - Commissioner stated that the Design Commission relies on the Design Commission handbook (rev. 10/01) to communicate its review process to the public, is advisory to SDOT and Council, and is not a regulatory body. Further stated that City Council is the place for public commentary on vacations and final decision making.

18 July 2002 Project: Monorail Discussion

Phase: Briefing

Attendees: Henry Aronson

Lyle Bicknell, CityDesign

Mike Lindblom, Seattle Times

Chris Leman, Eastlake resident

Time: .75 hour

(SDC Ref. # 219 | DC00231)

Summary: The Commission did not take an action.

The Commission discussed the draft list of their outstanding key issues and how to best express these at the town hall meeting on the Monorail occurring that very evening. The Commission agreed that they would like to see clear, accurate graphic representations of what the Monorail will look like and gave their support to the idea of building a full-scale station and guideway mock-up downtown on 2nd Avenue across University.

Key Commissioner Comments and Concerns

- The Commission confirmed that the items outlined in the outstanding key issues paper summarize their concerns and pointed out that these will continue to be issues for the City and the future ETC if the project goes forward;
- is concerned that there are no intermodal connections proposed between the Monorail and other transit systems, especially light rail, and believe that all new mass transit should capitalize on opportunities for connections;
- believes that ETC documents have addressed physical performance criteria, but not design issues raised by the Commission;
- supports mass public transit and all reasonable alternatives to vehicular transportation;
- does not believe that the ETC has addressed the view corridor issue;
- feels that the Monorail would connect parts of the city in a different way, but other systems could also achieve this;
- given the difficulty of getting a system through the downtown area, the Commission wonders why no consideration was given to connecting to bus and light rail through the existing downtown tunnel;
- understands that several City staff positions have been slated for the City's review of the project and believes that one or more of those positions should be devoted to review of the design as it progresses, similar to the position of Light Rail Review Panel Coordinator;
- has not taken a position as a whole; have a number of serious issues/concerns with the proposal, but remain supportive of transit.

Key Visitor Comments and Concerns

- Henry Aronson, a concerned citizen, urged the Commission to request that the ETC funding that was returned to city be used to build a full-scale mock-up of the Monorail on 2nd Avenue across University St. and one-half of a block north and south to show people what the system will look like.
- He stated that the Seattle Art Museum was required a certain set back in order to maintain the view corridor and that the Monorail would essentially be lidding 2nd Avenue and would affect 16

downtown view corridors.

- Aronson encouraged the Commission to consider a full-scale mock-up and urged that the building of it not be left up to ETC.

18 July 2002 Commission Business

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|-------------------------|----|---|
| ACTION ITEMS | A. | <u>TIMESHEETS</u> |
| | B. | <u>MINUTES FROM 20 JUNE</u> —APPROVED |
| DISCUSSION ITEMS | D. | <u>VIADUCT UPDATES</u> —RAHAIM & CUBELL |
| | E. | <u>LRRP REPRESENTATION</u> —CUBELL |
| ANNOUNCEMENTS | F. | <u>HIGH POINT UPDATE</u> —GASSMAN |
| | G. | <u>THE MONORAIL AND THE CITY</u> —JULY 18 TH , 2002, 6:30–8:30 PM,
SEATTLE CENTER, OLYMPIC ROOM (NORTHWEST ROOMS) |

18 July 2002 Project: **High Point Community Center Expansion**

Phase: Schematic Design

Presenters: Mark Johnson, Seattle Parks and Recreation
Erin Devoto, Seattle Parks and Recreation
Sam Cameron, Streeter Architects
Gail Staeger, Nakano AssociatesAttendees: Marilyn Gardner, Finance Department
Mel Streeter, Streeter Architects

Time: 1.25 hours (SDC Ref. # 169 | DC00271)

Action: The Commission thanked the proponent for the presentation and would like to make the following comments and recommendations.

- **The Commission strongly supports the diagonal spine parti and unification of old and new, but recommends that the design team push it further to encourage clarity in form/geometry;**
- **feels that the location of the childcare center makes it difficult to access and may not allow for sufficient daylight;**
- **urges the team to look at the project from the outside in as another layer of analysis, so as to create better exterior social spaces, better pedestrian clarity, and better connections to immediate landscape; and**
- **does not approve schematic design, holding that fundamental design issues must better be addressed.**

The High Point Community Center is located in West Seattle, surrounded by Parks Department holdings to the southwest and Seattle Schools' playfields. The site slopes northward so that the Community Center is tucked into a hillside. In deriving an estimate, the cost of an addition was compared with the cost of building a new community center and parking lot. The outcome significantly favored the solution of an addition due to the total cost and the security and ease of operation of upgrading an existing building. The budget for the project is \$3.7 million. The design is slated to be completed this year and the construction will begin in 2003 with the closeout occurring in early 2004. City Light is contributing \$50,000 to help reach the goal of a LEED-certified rating on the building.

The internally-focused design of the original building and the process of seeking sustainable design and building technologies have slowed the design process. However, over this time, the design has gained consistency. The existing building is approximately 9600 ft² and the addition will be approximately 9400 ft². Other constraints to the building design are that the site is on a hill and the school district property wraps around back of the community center. In addition, the adjacent tennis courts constrain/dictate the location of the community center addition.

The original building, built in the 1980s, was not a full-service community center; it had a gym, support spaces, lockers, a reception area, lobby, meeting rooms, and bathrooms. The additional 9400 ft² will contain a multipurpose room, commercial kitchen, computer resources, administrative offices, and a childcare center. The existing axes on the site are from 34th Avenue to the playfields and from the high part of the site to the community center.

The proponents looked into three options for the addition: a one-story addition south of the gym, a two-story addition to the southwest side of the building, and adding a second floor to the existing building.

The two-story options were not pursued because of issues of accessibility and staffing. The elevations of the addition are a mirror image of the existing community center.

In the existing community center the entry wall is blank with no fenestrations, which leaves no sense of where to enter. With the addition, the design team intends to correct this problem and glaze that wall to create transparency and the feeling of a front porch. The main street entrance will remain in the same axis as before, but it will be covered. If the community center is closed, and therefore that axis is closed off, people can walk around the edge of the tennis courts.

The adjacencies are such that the team designed the reception and administration areas to look back into the center's spaces. The kitchen is between the multipurpose room and childcare center. The space for mechanics and storage is tucked into the hillside. Spaces have been pushed out to get outside fenestrations and to get more natural light. Light will be made a focal point at the end of the east-west axis through use of a skylight, or some other natural lighting. Presently, the team is performing studies to determine how to solar access into the building's central spaces. Solutions might be to span space with clerestories and get southerly light in via windows. There will be clerestories in the multipurpose room.

The front of the building is opened up with landscape. The existing trees along the west side and the oak trees in the parking lot will be preserved if possible. The team is proposing to save most of the Douglas firs on the east side, removing approximately three and replacing them with deciduous trees to allow more solar access. Translucent materials and openness in the landscape will be used to enliven entrance plaza; as it exists now it is gray and dark. The plaza will also have a ramp, new decorative pavement, new benches, and curvilinear retaining wall. Columnar, deciduous trees will be located by the windows to allow for solar gain. Thorny bushes against the building will discourage children from climbing onto the low roof. The team is primarily using low-water plants and small shrubs rather than groundcover to minimize maintenance. Rainwater will be captured on the roof and an ecorevelatory system may be used to show what is happening roof sheds the water.

Key Commissioner Comments and Concerns

- Would like to know what happened to the second axis coming from the southwest.
 - Proponents stated that that axis has been eliminated because it does not work. As an alternative, people will be brought around the southwest corner of the building because the walkway in the community center will not be open when the building is closed.
- Would like to know what the "outrigger" structure is.
 - Proponents stated that this frames the playfields, serves as a terminus for the roofs, and balances the building.
- Suggests that an alternative solution would be to go up with a high, angular skylight, which would provide the visual element while allowing maximum daylight into the building.
 - Proponents stated that that was considered, but was concerned with what to do about rainwater.
- Feels that dealing with rainwater is a technical issue that can be solved. Suggests that the diagonal path from the southwest be reinstated and serve the visual purpose of the "outrigger." Also feels that the existing building is clear, simple, and dramatic and that the addition should mirror those simple shapes more completely.
 - Proponents stated that they attempted to do this but ran into problems with creating acute

angles that do not make usable spaces. Further stated that attempted to get 90° angles and clear, simple shapes in footprint.

- Likes the original concept and floor plan in general because it provides good access, overflow, shared bathrooms, but is concerned that, as a whole, the building is overly complex. Would like team to keep functional relationships, but modify the footprint. For example, could eliminate the jog at the southeast corner without affecting function. Encourages the team to keep what is successful about the other building—its simplicity.
- Suggests that the team put aside the functional analysis and come up with a building form that works with the site. By starting from the inside and working way out, the team has lost ways to make good outdoor spaces. Likes the front porch idea, but is concerned that with the roof, it might not work out that way. Would like to see more unity between site elements and building such as the walkway, and the relationship between the front porch and parking lot.
- Would like to know how the childcare center works.
 - Proponents stated that the childcare center will be for school-age children before and after school, and for expanded programs during the summer. The Parks Department operates childcare programs for children ages 5–10.
- Is concerned that a space with a clerestory and thorny plants does not sound like a space for children. Is not convinced that the childcare center location is appropriate because it is not accessible from outside and may not get very much natural daylight; also feels that there are possible security issues with it being so far from reception area.
 - Proponents stated that ideally they did not want community center adjacent to playfields, but this was a compromise. Proponents stated that they discussed location with parents, who would like childcare center entrance at front door, but this is not ideal for other users of the building. Further stated that the front desk does not staff the childcare center.
- Would like to know why the addition is where it is rather moving parking and put addition where parking is at present.
 - Proponents stated that this is due to budget constraints and access.
- Would like to know if there is an opportunity for direct, single purpose access for childcare center.
 - Proponents stated that there is a sidewalk by the childcare center but no room for cars. Further explained cars just pulling off the street could be accommodated, but there is no room for a lot.
- Would like to know if the proponents considered raising the floor level of the childcare center.
 - Proponents acknowledged that that is an option.
- Suggests that the proponents considering moving the multipurpose room west, which would bring the childcare center inward and create more open space.
- Suggests that the form be simplified. Opportunity to make west wall of the multipurpose room thick and make all of what is behind it a storage room. This would make it a continuous form and would pivoting would open up the south entrance.

18 July 2002 Project: High Point Library

Phase: Design Development

Previous Reviews: 6 April 2000 (Pre-Design), 7 July 2000 (Pre-Design), 18 April 2002 (Schematic Design Update)

Presenters: Douglas Bailey, Seattle Public Libraries
Brad Miller, Selkirk Miller Hayashi ArchitectsAttendees: Gilbert Anderson, Library Board
Alex Harris, Seattle Public Libraries
Tim Morrison, Department of Finance

Time: 1.25 hours (SDC Ref. # 169 | DC00112)

Action: The Commission appreciates the update and would like to make the following comments and recommendations.

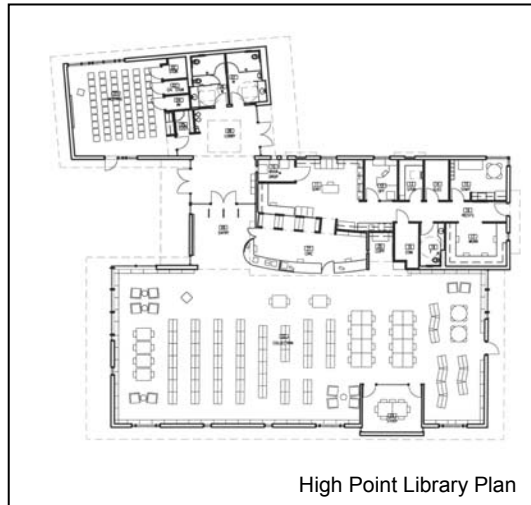
- **The Commission recommends that the design team create a more civic image for the project at the northwest corner, perhaps with varied massing or by creating more transparency;**
- **urges the team to develop the exterior spaces, especially the one on the west side, for active, social uses**
- **encourages the proponents to open up the south elevation with larger and/or lower windows;**
- **is concerned that the project has not been adequately developed since schematic design; and**
- **approves design development, with a vote of five to two, on the condition that the design team review and respond to the Commission's previous comments as well as the Commission's current concerns.**

In discussions with Seattle Housing Authority, the proponents concluded that the High Point Library will be representing much of the redevelopment that is happening in that neighborhood. To make this visible, the proponents used the building's street frontage to make it a statement of renewal and civic investment.

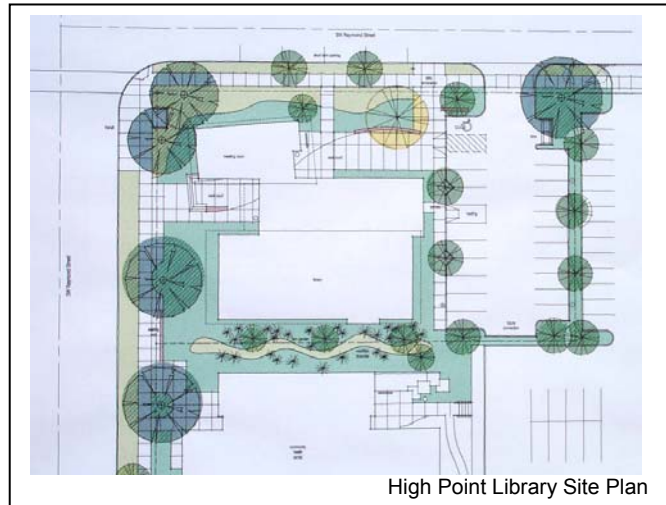
Since the schematic design was reviewed, the proponents focused on two issues: simplifying the project formally by simplifying roof forms and taking advantage of the street frontage on 35th Avenue Southwest by capturing the idea of a civic image. In doing so, the proponents also modified the scale of the building and created a 14' datum in the elevations. Street trees are a critical piece in the site plan. 35th Avenue SW has lindens in addition to large cypress trees that create a colonnade. While the cypress trees are a challenge to design around, they are beneficial as a landmark.



The plinth outside of the meeting room was raised with 3–4 steps. The front entrance to the building is still wide and generous and the basic gesture is an unfolding from the entry. The lit interior will have a presence on the street so as people approach from 35th Avenue SW, the monumental scale of the glazing will draw them in. Between the health center and the library, there is potential for visual refuge; the space



High Point Library Plan



High Point Library Site Plan

has a ravine-type feeling. This exterior space will have a modified bioswale in the form of a rain garden or a fern garden. The library building is mostly brick to relate to the proposed health center, which will primarily be brick and glass. The health center façade that faces the library is more a filigree of wood to create a different feel than the street frontage landscape.

The design team worked to create a relationship between the exterior and interior spaces. Behind the large windows (6' x 8') at the west end is a casual reading area that contains materials such as periodicals, large print books, and language collections. The current library is child-friendly, but not adult friendly and the casual reading room addresses this issue. The children and young adult areas look out onto the side yard.

The library is meant to be a center for literacy and seen as a place that locals can inhabit imaginatively.

Richness of detail will be used to achieve this. The design works in detail of the roof inside and out with a grid structure and articulated trusses. The public art, done by Steven Gardner, will also provide detailing with wall-mounted terracotta relief panels at the main entrance and niches in the east entrance. These will be top lit when dark, and washed with daylight during the day. The lobby provides an opportunity for a hidden light source, which will be a south-facing clerestory.



Northwest view of High Point Library

Key Commissioner Comments and Concerns

- Would like to know what materials will be in the courtyard for things such as benches, pavers, etc.
 - Proponents stated that the east courtyard will be framed by the building elevation where there are art pieces. There are a series of low benches on the site and the landscape will bank up on the other side of these. The specimen tree will be the focal point in the southeast corner of the courtyard. Further stated that there will be a broadened sidewalk

and the benches will help define that sidewalk space. Concrete pavers or some kind of articulated paving will be used. There will also be accessories like bike racks and a book drop. A bench in the front will be incorporated into the plinth.

- Would like changes from schematic design pointed out, aside from the roof slope.
 - Proponents stated that the fenestration has been changed in the development of the 14' datum line. Further pointed out that the parapet height has been lowered and a screen was created to hide the mechanics.
- Would like to know if the building footprint has been moved.
 - Proponents stated that the buildings have been pulled 18" closer to 35th Avenue SW to better link with the alley to the north and create more generous pedestrian access.
- Would like to know if the parking will be shared with the proposed adjacent grocery store and how many parking curb cuts there are.
 - Proponents stated that the parking will be shared. There will be two parking lot curb cuts off of SW Raymond Street for the building permit, but will pursue taking out one of parking lot entrances later.
- Feels that the changes made since schematic design was presented are too minor and that the team has not responded to suggestions made last time. Acknowledges that the roof shapes have been simplified and there are minor changes to the fenestrations, but feels that the building still does not relate to corner. Concerned that building is too fragmented and the scale too small for it to hold down corner and have a presence as a public building. Feels that there is not a clear relationship of outdoor spaces and something should be done with landscaping between buildings and to the north.
 - Proponents acknowledged that last time was asked to make spaces between buildings more usable/active, but this creates a management issue for library that they are not comfortable with.
- Recognizes that one issue the Commission had at last review was occupiable social spaces. Feels that if middle space cannot be used because it would need monitoring, then outdoor social spaces are lacking.
- Feels that if middle space cannot be used/occupied, design for space being looked out into it.
- Acknowledges that at last review, Commission felt parti was workable, but certain pieces, especially the corner and character of outdoor spaces were not working.
- Feels that some of outdoor spaces look like they could be made habitable. Agrees that a very small building at a corner is weak and that it is difficult to make a small building hold down the corner. Suggests the possibility of a tall vertical wall.
- Believes that wall would fragment building and would like to see massing used to hold corner.
- Feels that you can almost see the roof lines of the two buildings joining and perhaps reinforcing that could help create more mass.
- Recognizes that this form is hard to resolve at corner.
 - Proponents stated that the message from the community is to keep the trees and an urban presence on the corner with the trees is difficult. Further explains that the branches of the trees are low, so must build beneath these.

- Would like to know if there is a possibility for joining the two roofs.
 - Proponents stated that that is a possibility, but do not think that this corner is the place for a big corner statement building. Graham Street would be better suited for a corner statement building. The corner of 35th Avenue SW and SW Raymond Street is the corner to ramp up into the growing commercial center. Given the semi-residential context of the building, design, in some ways, treats project more as large house. Further stated that they went and looked at other corner libraries for examples such as Magnolia and smaller pieces are used as foil to capture courtyards.
 - Proponents felt that they have created habitable outdoor spaces. There is the opportunity to work more detail into the open spaces.
- Recognizes that the project can be seen as a large house, but still must be a civic building. Building is still too fragmented. The meeting room is not visually scaled large enough to hold the corner and appears to be an appendage rather than integral part of building.
- Believes that Northeast Branch Library is a good example of a library conveying feeling of larger singular mass.
 - Proponents felt that the High Point Library design gives that reading and a unified reading. State that they have taken the size of a house, but put in a more institutional form.
- Recognizes that from some angles the building looks like more unified, civic building, but from some angles you lose that.
 - Proponents stated that what is lost by further unifying the building is the articulation of indoor spaces.
- Recognizes that challenging the design team to make a more civic presence at the corner is good, but does not want the Commission to tell them how to solve that problem. Does not want action to push one roof idea. Also urges the team to make the courtyard on the west side an outdoor room, not a bench with a walkway next to it.
- Believes the problem is that the smallest, most untransparent building is on the corner.
- Feels that there are two issues that need to be addressed: the treatment of the elevations on the corner and the west courtyard.
- Would like to know if this building could be tilted.
- States that the Commission suggested the team explore the building being tilted at last review and the team chose not to. Feels that there should be a reciprocity between buildings and suggests that the team treat the building as two equal pieces with a gap in the middle rather than three separate pieces.
- Would like to know if there are issues with having glazing and transparency at the corner.
 - Proponents stated that this is where the meeting room is located and that transparency and glazing there are not a problem and the library directed the architects to create this. The library's intention is to reach out to surrounding community as the present library is not used because people do not know it is there.
- Would like to know what kind of signage and lighting will be used.
 - Proponents stated that there will be large signage, but not supergraphics.

- Would like to know why windows are 3' high. Small children cannot see out of windows that tall.
 - Proponents stated that they would lose some shelving if windows were lowered or made bigger, however the windows are already so low that there is not much left to lose.

18 July 2002 Project: Meeting with Grace Crunican, Director, SDOT

Attendees: Lyle Bicknell, CityDesign
Grace Crunican, SDOT
Jeff Davis, Finance Department
Ethan Melone, SDOT

Time: 1.25 hours

Summary: The Commission met with Grace Crunican to discuss transportation related work and how the Commission can best help SDOT.

Key Commissioner Comments and Concerns

- Expressed their gratitude to Ms. Crunican for attending the meeting and for the frank discussion, and would like to offer its continued support for the work of SDOT;
- Would like the Commission to have a meaningful role in discussions of large city projects, namely the Viaduct, Monorail, and SR 520;
- Suggest the possibility of underground utilities being put under driving lanes to better accommodate street trees;
- Suggest that, with regard to the Viaduct and its entrance/exit ramps, the downtown traffic should be handled in a way that gives primacy to pedestrians; and
- Expressed support for many of SDOT's pedestrian-friendly projects including Green Streets, S.E.A. Streets, Wayfinding, High Point Master Plan streetscape, and neighborhood bike/pedestrian improvements.

Key Visitor Comments and Concerns

- Grace Crunican gave her support for what designers do and appreciates what the Design and Planning Commissions both bring to the table.
- She also discussed the reorganization, staffing up, and course corrections that SDOT will be taking, and a work plan that will be formulated by July 31.
- She stated that SDOT needs to worry about how transportation functions and what Seattle's transportation needs are and feels that they need the Design Commission and the Planning Commission to help with this.
- Crunican expressed interest in having the Commission come in and bring up issues when SDOT is reviewing plans.
- She agreed that the Commission should be in on discussions pertaining to large city projects.
- She suggested that those projects where the city has a vested interest, but the Commission technically has no purview, such as SR 519 and SR 520, the Commission should form partnerships to get involved.

- Crunican stated that she is happy to come back, on occasion, for feedback and to maintain a dialogue with the Commission.