



APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Mike McGinn
Mayor

Diane Sugimura
Director, DPD

Marshall Foster
Planning Director, DPD

Mary Johnston
Chair

Julie Bassuk

Graham Black

Malika Kirkling

Laurel Kunkler

Tom Nelson

Julie Parrett

Norie Sato

Donald Vehige

Valerie Kinast
Coordinator

Tom Iurino
Senior Staff

February 17, 2011

Convened 9:30am
Adjourned 3:00pm

Projects Reviewed

Midvale Stormwater Facility
Venema Stormwater Facility
Chihuly Exhibit at Seattle Center Fun Forest

Commissioners Present

Mary Johnston, Chair
Julie Bassuk
Malika Kirkling
Laurel Kunkler
Tom Nelson
Julie Parrett
Norie Sato
Donald Vehige

Commissioners Excused

Graham Black

Staff Present

Valerie Kinast
Tom Iurino
Tera Hatfield



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Feb 17, 2011 **Project:** **Midvale Stormwater Facility**
Phase: Schematic Design
Last Reviewed: Aug 19, 2010
Presenters: Chris Woelfel, SPU
 Mike Eagan, SPU
 Steve Resnick, SPU

Attendees: N/A

Time: 10:00am-11:00am

ACTION

The Commission thanked the design team for their clear presentation of Midvale Stormwater Facility. The commission appreciated the approach to community involvement and the attitude that the team brought to the notion of the fence and openness that suggests and creates.

By a vote of 8-0 the commission unanimously approved the schematic design with the following comments:

- Create an inviting facility that will be a catalyst, over time, for neighborhood improvements. Understand cultural and neighborhood issues as they are the most important to this facility's success. Weight the opinions of the people who live there more than those of the business owners. The social problems observed by west side businesses can't be fixed by design alone, but should include better enforcement and patrolling.
- Use different materials and develop a design that is more in keeping with an urban neighborhood in Seattle. Create inviting pockets along edge; rather than benches, use multi-functional design elements to allow people to linger.
- Provide low, pedestrian scale lighting in addition to taller existing streetlights. This lighting could be integrated with the fence or be free standing.
- Integrate art with fence and lighting—do multiple things to communicate the history of place and to affect behavior. Because the art is being planned so late in the design process, pay special attention to it not being an appliqué or appearing to be an afterthought
- Envision the west side and maintenance access road as a green amenity and not just a gravel road. If it could look like a green peninsula as much as possible that would be a good thing.
- Coordinate plant establishment with seasons. Develop a planting schedule so the neighborhood can see continued growing improvements.
- Consider naming of the facility as an opportunity for neighborhood involvement and a reflection of the history of the place.