

SURVEY RESULTS

U District Street Fair


May 21-22, 2017



Participants were asked to comment on the images and describe what they liked or did not like about the design. Twenty-six participants provided the following comments.

General Comments




- Many of the designs are boxy and industrial, prefers designs with texture, details, and materials that contribute to the character of the neighborhood
- Want gradual green transition from building to sidewalk
- More open space retention of existing trees
- More open space along street
- Likes what Ballard has done to incorporate housing that is large enough for families (townhouses)
- Consolidate services for low-income and homeless to make access easier
- Wants public loo like Ballard
- Would like to see a streetcar down 15th
- Affordability more important than design
- Too much use of beige
- Less use of random, high contrast or bright color blocks
- Any new POPS need to be accessible

Comments on specific images

	Image	Comments
1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too simplistic, needs more detailing • Like the space for trees • Design is boxy and modern • Does not contribute to neighborhood character • Ok, like more open front design, but too boxy • Boxy, uninspired • Need more density in U District • Too boxy • Don't like, too small, heavy on top • Likes use of wood • Likes staircases • Does not like proportions • Dislike, not enough greenery • Doesn't match neighborhood • Likes large windows • Likes design, but not dense enough

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Likes simplicity and pop of color • Does not appear ADA friendly • Like individual entries • Likes scale • Likes setback
2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like, multiple textures, landscaping, and pedestrian features • Likes green space and walkways • Balconies break up the massing, but rather haphazard • Likes, looks like appropriate for student living • Likes the use of greenery • Don't like balconies sticking out • Likes color palette • Too stark • Nice streetscape design • Likes random placement of balconies • Likes use of brick at street level • Great cohesive design with visual interest and human-scaled design • Needs places to sit
3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Likes dense plantings and textured (brick) sidewalk • Like curved lines on roof, keeps from being too boxy • balconies are visually disruptive • Does not seem to fit the U District, more like downtown • Like greenery • Looks more residential, pleasant to walk by • Likes greenery, but building in back is too tall • Concerned about shading • Visually interesting architecture • Too tall • Dated • Likes mix of unit types

4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like, adaptable • Likes large windows • Ok, maybe too many windows (for privacy) • Like exposed trusses • Lack of privacy • Would like to see more greenery at base • Likes large windows • Visually interesting, concerned about privacy • Like, but maybe too industrial for U District • Not engaging with streetscape
5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like, round and linear shapes, with broken lines • Needs more landscaping • Not great, no green • Like curved shape and lower massing for adding visual interest without feeling arbitrary or trendy • Seems out of place in the U District • Open area is good way to break up space • Looks like a hotel • Likes round corners • Likes covered open space at corner • Somewhat imposing • Great seating, but needs more plants
6		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like, many corner office concept • Dislikes the industrial aesthetic • Too boxy, not engaging of sidewalk, needs more green • too repetitive • Too austere, needs more green • Bland, more greenery • Does not like color palette • Simple and elegant • Too blocky and homogenous • Does not like color scheme • Any taller would be difficult to maintain human-scale

7		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like, combination of residential and commercial • Not great, too much focus on shops, want more sidewalk friendly • Likes lower massing in front; design of taller massing façade is lacking, could better reference the more traditional design of the lower massing • Setback of taller massing decreases shading on street • Can we get a streetcar? • Plain, not visually interesting • Does not like color palette • Likes use of awnings • Likes mix of uses • Would prefer local uses instead of banks
8		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like, mix of glass and brick • Prefers brick building on left • Likes street lamps • Good proportions, human-scaled enclosure • Like greenery but feels too narrow • Greenery makes for nice sightlines and softens hard corners • Needs shops or sitting areas, too alley-like • Good design for an alley • Likes that courtyards and alleys can be made into useable space • Nice pedestrian spaces, windows, and use of brick • Likes light strings and plantings • Fitting for U District • Concerned about keeping activated/safety
9		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bland, homogenous • Ok, need more sidewalk transition • Nice way to break up corner • Ugly, giant slabs • Doesn't like use of bright yellow • Likes corner element • Not cohesive • Colors make stand out too much, needs to be toned down • Does not like colors or design

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- Likes having wider sidewalk in front of the building
- Boxy, but like how broken up
- design is useful for food bank, likes the rooftop garden
- The irregular front (angled) is more inviting
- Dislike random color blocks
- Likes more in person
- Doesn't like colors – random pattern and too high contrast
- Boring and boxy
- Not enough landscaping

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- Like, sidewalk width, set back from street
- Likes use of brick
- Likes green transition from sidewalk to building
- Greenery softens hard edges
- Likes individual units
- Likes the large sidewalk and plantings
- Likes the rowhouse design
- Loves landscaping and materials
- Would like to see setback at level three
- Classic design
- Like stoops

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- Like, open space
- Likes landscaping and transition to units
- Courtyard makes hard edges less severe
- Like incorporation of pedestrian areas
- Like, especially if you can walk through the courtyard from the street
- More greenery instead of hard surfaces
- Likes lighting and shared space
- Likes the color palette
- Open and welcoming
- Likes combination of modern architecture and lush landscaping

13		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like, mixed-use, brick fit with university setting • Likes use of bricks for texture and warmth • too boxy, no transition to public sidewalk, no green • Like use of brick to make fit with adjacent • Likes building that matches/reflects older styles and brick • Classic design • More greenery • Blends in with streetscape • Repetitive, long façade • Likes use of brick, but little else • Looks older, like adjacent building • Likes small retail and variety of businesses
14		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ok for office • Do not like, too boxy • A little too brutalist and modern, large mass seems to be looming over the street • Terrible not personable or livable • Does not like, not aesthetically pleasing • Dislikes random color blocks • Reflects office use, but not pleasing • Looks like a hospital • Looks outdated • Sterile • Blocky, no street-level interest • Cold, and not pedestrian-friendly • No interaction with street • Looks like a lego building

15		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like • Likes the art installation • Likes green space and transition • Likes art • Like incorporation of pedestrian area/open space • Likes transition to taller building and open space at corner • Likes ground level, whimsical • Unique design • Likes idea of art; community should have input • Likes seating
16		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like • Ok, but building seems really tall • Nice transition from sidewalk to building • Terracing helps to break up and makes a gradual transition to the taller portion • Too tall, belongs in industrial area • Likes transition of massing • Design seems inconsistent throughout • Too tall for U District; towers shouldn't dominate skyline • Likes overall design and height • Likes terraces and balconies • Likes use of horizontal and vertical elements • Looks modern without trying too hard • Likes open space at grade and use of landscaping • Doesn't maintain neighborhood feel • Not a unique tall building