



The City of Seattle

## Pioneer Square Preservation Board

Mailing Address: PO Box 94649, Seattle WA 98124-4649

Street Address: 600 4th Avenue, 4th Floor

PSB06/25

### Staff Report

Board meeting Jan 15, 2025

Board Members Please Note: The citations from the District Ordinance, Rules for the Pioneer Square Preservation District, and Secretary of the Interior's Standards listed below are for your consideration in addition to any other citations you find relevant in considering each application.

112024.41      **Fortson Square**  
108 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave S  
Joshua Gawne, SDOT

### **Proposed: Redesign of Fortson Square including removing of existing vegetation and trees lighting and paving installing new trees vegetation lighting and paving and artwork**

Staff report: The Board last saw this project in Sept of 2023. The Board supported the proposal. The Alliance for Pioneer Square and the Chief Seattle Club were stakeholders in the project planning. The Board has received several briefings about the project. The Board supported the design, tree removal which also allowed for rat remediation and because cumulatively there will be more vegetation. They recognized that the design goals for making this a more usable space could not be achieved without the tree removal. They determined that Fortson Square had no historic resources and supported the decommissioning of the art installation. The Board recognized that the light fixtures were remakes of early gas lights used in area, did not supply sufficient light, and some did not function therefore the Board supported the idea of using the same light fixture in Occidental Park. The Board appreciated the ADA access and to welcome and celebrate Salish peoples and cultures and the history of the Pioneer Square area as a gathering place since time immemorial. The Grandmother Frog Welcome Figure by artist Andrea Wilbur-Sigo to be located at the corner of Yesler and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave Ext was approved and is a separate but coordinated project.

### **Code Citations:**

**Seattle Municipal Code**

**Administered by The Historic Preservation Program  
The Seattle Department of Neighborhoods**

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#### 23.66.030 Certificates of Approval required

Certificate of approval required. No person shall alter, demolish, construct, reconstruct, restore, remodel, make any visible change to the exterior appearance of any structure, or to the public rights-of-way or other public spaces in a special review district, and no one shall remove or substantially alter any existing sign or erect or place any new sign or change the principal use of any building, or any portion of a building, structure or lot in a special review district, and no permit for such activity shall be issued unless a certificate of approval has been issued by the Department of Neighborhoods Director.

#### **Rules for the Pioneer Square Preservation District**

##### III. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR REHABILITATION AND NEW CONSTRUCTION

Rehabilitation is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values.

#### **Secretary of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation 9 and 10.**

Issued: Jan 10, 2025

Genna Nashem

Pioneer Square Preservation Board Coordinator