

# Seattle Design Commission

## **APPROVED**

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING **21 February 2002**

Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

> Donald Royse Chair

Tom Bykonen

Ralph Cipriani

Jack Mackie

Cary Moon

David Spiker

Sharon E. Sutton Tory Laughlin Taylor

John Rahaim, Executive Director

Layne Cubell, Commission Coordinator Projects Reviewed

Woodland Park Zoo Discovery Village Salmon Recovery Program

Automated Public Toilet Demonstration Program

Adjourned: 2:00pm lain M. Robertson

**Commissioners Present** 

Donald Royse, Chair Jack Mackie, Vice Chair Tom Bykonen Cary Moon Iain M. Robertson David Spiker

Tory Laughlin Taylor

**Staff Present** 

Convened: 8:30am

Layne Cubell Brad Gassman Sally MacGregor



Department of Design, Construction & Land Use

700 5th Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98104-5070 phone 206/233-7911 fax 206/386-4039

21 Feb 2002 Project: Woodland Park Zoo Discovery Village

Phase: Schematic Design

Previous Reviews: 17 January 2002 (Conceptual Design), 6 December 2001 (Pre-Design), 1 July

1999 (Long Range Plan Pre-Design), 19 August 1999 (Conceptual)

Presenters: Greg Dykstra, CLR Design

Bert Gregory, Mithun David Goldberg, Mithun

Attendees: Sean Cryan, Mithun

Jim Maxwell, Woodland Park Zoo Dan Phillips, Woodland Park Zoo

Scott Ringgold, Department of Design, Construction, and Land Use

Time: 2 hours (SDC Ref. # 169 | DC00068)

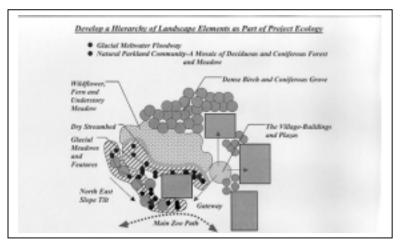
Action: The Commission appreciates the presentation and would like to make the following comments and recommendations.

- The Design Commission, by a vote of 6 to 1, approves the schematic design of the Discovery Village and north administration building;
- the dissenting vote expresses concern that an art program is not yet a component of the design process at this early and important stage;
- hopes that 1% for Art will become an integral component of the design process;
- commends the design team's intent to integrate the buildings within the surrounding landscape and appreciates the proponents' design direction;
- recognizing both the comprehensive long-term plan for the Zoo and the phased implementation of the Discovery Village project, expresses concern about how the buildings will relate to the changed west entry sequence and resulting pedestrian experience and recommends reexamination of the pathways;
- encourages the design team to clarify how the Northwest biome will be experienced, within the conservation exhibit gallery and throughout the Discovery Village landscape;
- is concerned that the architectural character of the buildings within Discovery Village is not yet apparent, nor unified;
- feels that there is an opportunity to improve the design of the main Discovery Village plaza by architecturally linking the buildings, emphasizing their entrances, and simplifying the many forms and elements;
- appreciates the schematic design development of the north administration building, but encouraged greater resolution of its massing; and
- hopes that sustainability principles continue to guide the Discovery Village and north administration building designs, and supports the team's goal of aiming for the City's first LEED<sup>TM</sup> Silver and Platinum ratings.

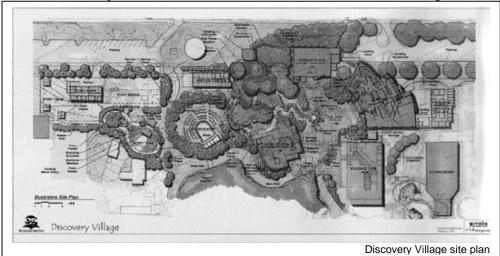
The design team, a collaboration between CLR Design and Mithun, presented the schematic design for the Woodland Park Zoo Discovery Village. The project scope includes the education components and design of the Discovery Village and new administration offices. This project represents a component of the first phase of the Woodland Park Zoo long-range plan. The design team has been working with the

Zoo, through workshops, throughout the design process.

The Discovery Village will provide a strong indoor venue for exhibits, which is not currently a significant component of the zoo. The design team presented an overview of the master plan and siting considerations for all components of the Discovery Village. The main looping path throughout the north area of the zoo will change, in response to the installation of the carousel and the construction of the north administration office; a gateway to the Discovery Village



will be along this path. This west site was chosen for Discovery Village because this area is currently under-used; the site slopes down to the northeast. This Northwest zone will make connections to the rest of the zoo, and explain how humans can work with the environment, using wind and light.



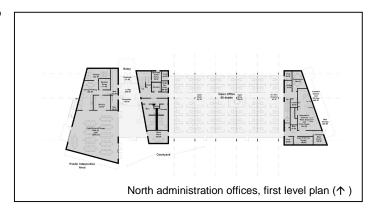
Many of the existing trees in this area will be retained, primarily sycamores, and will be the main landscape area for the Northwest biome path. The design team hopes to develop a hierarchy of landscape elements as part of this project. The landscape concept for the Northwest biome area will be very aggressive, and the design team hopes that visitors will be able to understand the landscape almost immediately, simply by entering the area. There will also be graphic interpretation and explanation of this area. The dense area of trees at Phinney Avenue will lead to the open plaza, and this path will be enhanced with a dry stream bed. The design team is working with engineers to determine whether or not roof runoff may be used for this stream. The landscape area will also incorporate glacial meadows and other features, such as carved out erratic boulders.

The conservation exhibit gallery will be a low-profile "black box" building for exhibits. This will be a cast in place concrete building without windows, and large steel trusses to provide an open plan. There may be large planting beds on the roof. The main entry area will address the Discovery Village plaza.

The Northwest biome conservatory will be a masonry building with a steel and glass roof. The main entry at the plaza will be a light frame structure. The central biome learning area will contain educational components and smaller animals. There will be two biomes within this space, separated by a transition zone. The support building, to the north of the biome area, will house the animals; the keepers and their care of the animals will also be visible, allowing visitors a unique education experience. The animal support facility will be a low-profile concrete block building with corrugated metal siding and a gabled roof.

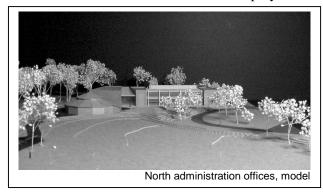
The design team is still working with the Zoo to determine the programming of the family science learning facility.

The north administration office site is at the north end of the meadow. The design team has developed the design in response to the location of the existing trees and to respond to existing site forces. The design concept focuses on these and other environmental design considerations. At a previous Commission meeting, the design team explained that the design concept is based on



an idea the buildings, conceptually, would be the boulders within the forest. These boulders would be the main solid masses, while the main administration open office spaces would be adjacent to these building anchors. The main entry vestibule for employees will be located to the west, between two main building masses. The entry would open up to a view of the zoo and meadow. An exterior employee courtyard will be adjacent to the open office area. The office area will have operable windows. The surface of this courtyard will be pervious, but drivable. The solid building masses, the boulders, would contain conference rooms, the main employee cafeteria, a board room, utilities, and other employee

support areas. The west building mass may operate at other times than the zoo offices, to serve zoo administrative needs in the evenings and on weekends. The design team has explored different structural systems; the structure may be wood members, reinforced by a steel tension system, to minimize the use of wood framing from larger trees. The roof of parts of this building may be planted, to extend the green of the meadow. One wall of the support building will face the meadow and the carousel; this wall



may be used for an interpretive exhibit, explaining the sustainable principles of the design.

#### **Key Commissioner Comments and Concerns**

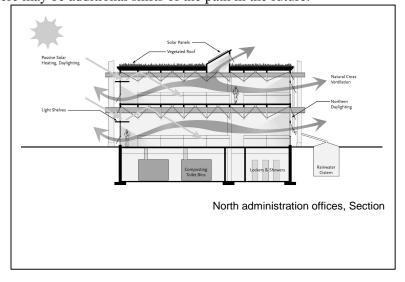
- Would like the design team to explain the architectural concept and design character for the buildings in the Discovery Village.
  - Proponents stated that the wild landscape zone penetrates the built area, and extends over the landscape of the buildings, through the incorporation of planters on the roof and sides of the buildings. The design intent is to capture the interdependence of humans and nature, also speaking to how humans live in nature. Further stated that there is an

opportunity for buildings to be the key public interface from the plaza. The materials for these entries will be transparent, and the architectural character will be of a smaller scale, with crafted connections, creating an evocative, tactile area. There may also be a water tower reservoir for roof runoff, with sculptural elements to display this water conservation. Further stated that this may be an opportunity for kinetic operable components.

- Appreciates the design team's response. Is excited that the landscape design has precedence over the buildings.
- Feels that the design team needs to refine the forms and simple volumes of these large buildings. Feels that the entrance condition at each of the buildings needs to be unified. Recognizes the sloping roofs mediating between the larger volumes and the smaller frame entrances. Would like to know if the design team has considered a simple, consistent arcade around the plaza, uniting the building facades at the plaza, recognizing the inconsistency around this edge. Believes that an arcade would mediate between the edge of the plaza and the heavy masonry buildings.
  - Proponents stated that they have been considering these links throughout the design process, and hopes that there is an implied link between these buildings.
- Feels that the elevations of the conservation exhibit gallery and the Northwest biome conservatory are very different, architecturally. Feels that the entrances of these buildings should be very similar and clearly identifiable as components of the Discovery Village.
- Commends the design team for the landscape concept. Recognizes that the Northwest landscape is of a violent, dramatic scale, and it may be hard to design a small model of this experience. Would like to know if the team has considered an abstraction of this experience, recreating the experience, rather than focusing on the aesthetic experience of this landscape.
  - Proponents stated that there would be pocket, demonstration gardens, fifteen feet by fifteen feet, along the trail.
- Believes that the landscape design needs to be clear, describing how much space is required for the large scale interventions.
- Believes that an arts program should be on board at this stage. Believes that the schematic design presentation is incomplete without a description of the project's art program.
  - Proponents stated that the Zoo has initiated discussion of this component, but an art program is not a component of the design process yet.
- Would like the design team to explain the west entry sequence near the parking lot and Northwest biome support building. Would like to know how these buildings will affect the pedestrian experience.
  - Proponents stated that the new west entry location is not part of this project. This west entry is a component of the long-range plan. Further stated that the west entry will include a significant gateway at Phinney Avenue. The west entry will separate pedestrian service vehicles and visitor vehicles. Further stated that the entry sequence from Phinney Avenue to the ticket booth will build excitement, and will be visually interesting.
- Recognizes that this west entry is not a part of this project, but feels that there should be an arrow,

indicating the location of the path, to ensure that there will be enough space between the Discovery Village buildings.

- Is concerned about the form of the plaza, believes that the formality of the plaza should be coherent, and the shapes and edges of the Discovery Village buildings should give form and shape to the plaza. Feels that the experience of the plaza should extend into the buildings also.
- Is concerned about the natural elements that the design team has proposed for the rooftops. Is concerned that this type of intervention may be contrived and is not necessary. Encourages the design team to apply the experience of the natural elements to the man-made forms abstractly.
- Believes that the Discovery Village design landscape design concept is strong.
- Believes that the design of the Northwest biome building is awkward, and looks forward to the design development.
- Would like to know if the path leading to the employee courtyard would be public.
  - Proponents stated that, in the future, there would be changes to the Australasia exhibit. The main building will be moved to the north end of this area, and visitors will circulate along this building. Further stated that the entrance to the Northern Trail would move to the south. Therefore, the main zoo loop will become smaller. Further stated that the path to the employee courtyard will remain because it is needed for emergency access.
- Would like to know if the path, continuing to the courtyard, will inhibit the private functions of the courtyard.
  - Proponents stated that the path may be closed off, through further implementation of the long-range plan. Further stated that public access to the employee courtyard could be discouraged by design. Further stated that this concern would be address as other elements are designed. There may be additional shifts of the path in the future.
- Recognizing that the material expression of the north administration building "boulders" would be cast in place concrete with a rough finish. Does not believe that these masses truly represent "boulders," and feels that the design is simply a relationship between solids and voids. Believes that if these building masses are considered boulders, they should be solid, with smaller openings, rather than finely crafted openings.
- Feels that the original design concept has become a successful design, but believes that the design need no longer be tied directly to the original concept of boulders and tents.



• Feels that the office space design, incorporating sustainable principles is very successful. Feels that the sustainable principles should be explained through refinement of architectural detail.

- Commends the team for the beautiful building design, but is concerned about the siting of the building. Feels that this building is an object, and the site design of the building needs further development, relative to the building and the Long Range Plan.
- Believes that the design team needs to explain how the site is used.
- Recognizes that this site is in a neighborhood zone. Would like to know how an office building is zoned within a park.
  - A representative from Department of Design, Construction, and Land Use stated that they would investigate and respond to this issue in the future.
  - Proponents stated that the 1976 plan identified the need for zoo office space. Further stated that the current office space 16,000 square feet is located in trailers. In 1976, the Woodland Park Zoo became a zoo, rather than a park with animals. Further stated that the office use is incidental to the park use.
- Recognizes that angles, in plan, shape the view to the meadow. Believes that the entry vestibule should open up to the meadow in section as well. Would like to know why the roof of the entry vestibule slopes down to the meadow. Feels that there are too many ideas driving the design of the north administration area.
  - Proponents stated that the green roof insulates the building and reduces runoff. Further stated that making the meadow visually extend onto the roof of the entry volume was a goal of the green roof sloping to the south.
- Recognizes that the angles of the building mass address the carousel. Would like to know the reason for the other angles.
  - Proponents stated that these angles are used to avoid existing utilities and trees. Further stated that the planting along these edges would be seasonal.
- Feels that the design team could achieve more by doing less. Urges the design team to return to the central focus of sustainability as the main architectural design component. Hopes that these principles are not compromised through further development of the design.
- Does not believe that the Commission should approve schematic design if the presentation does include an art program.
  - Proponents stated that the Zoo has always had an interest in art and will continue to do so. Further stated that this concern would be addressed by the Zoo Board.
- Would like to know if there would be commitment from the Zoo to establish an Art Program for this project's design.
  - Proponents stated that they have drafted a policy to present to the Zoo Board, and this
    policy is based on past practices. Further stated that this program would most likely
    continue.
- Believes that the art should not be applied after the fact. Feels that the lack of resolution of the plazas, for both the Discovery Village and the north administration building, is a positive opportunity to involve an artist. Feels that this current weakness could potentially become a strength.

21 Feb 2002 Project: Salmon Recovery Program

Phase: Briefing

Presenters: Keith Kurko, City Salmon Team, Seattle Public Utilities

Sarah McKearnan, City Salmon Team, Seattle Public Utilities Judith Noble, City Salmon Team, Seattle Public Utilities

Time: 1 hour (SDC Ref. # 169 | DC00267)

Discussion Summary: The Commission appreciates the educational briefing on shoreline design and treatment options, and looks forward to the opportunity to guide projects using the objectives explained in the briefing.

- The Design Commission encourages the team to develop a map and pamphlet for broad distribution, explaining all sites and projects that have been developed to improve salmon habitat and migration needs;
- encourages the City Salmon Team to reframe this presentation in the future to reinforce the condition of economic development and improvement of the natural world are not mutually exclusive;
- encourages the City Salmon Team to develop design guidelines that explain scientifically appropriate design solutions, identify functional goals to which designers can respond; and hopes that these solutions do not always aesthetically mimic the natural function they are replicating.

The City Salmon Team, housed in Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) presented the work of the Salmon Recovery Program. In 2000, The Salmon Team issued "Seattle's Urban Blueprint for Salmon Recovery." The Salmon Team recognized that these are not only shoreline concerns, but salmon are affected by the way humans live, use water, design buildings, and design surfaces and runoff.

Seattle's landscape is shaped by water in many ways. Water surrounds the downtown center, reaches many of the residential neighborhoods, and rains on Seattle's streets and gardens. Many urban creeks are integrated within the urban neighborhood landscape. Through the process of Seattle's development, the edges between land and water have been hardened and straightened, and there are few Duwamish areas where a soft area remains. There are also hard cement walls all along the ship canal. These edges have been hardened to protect private and public properties from erosion, create transportation infrastructure, develop homes and offices, and to convey water away from flood-prone areas. Further development of impervious surfaces continues to lead to additional flooding problems. These hardened edges pose many problems for salmon.

The Salmon Team explained background on salmon in Seattle, ways in which hardened land and water interfaces reduce habitat for salmon and separate us from natural environments, and began to identify ways in which urban design solutions could create healthy salmon habitat while reconnecting humans to the water.

In March, 1999, Puget Sound chinook were designated a "threatened" species under the Endangered Species Act. Seattle is a gateway for the chinook. The salmon spawning in the Cedar and Sammamish Rivers travel through Lake Washington, Lake Union, and the ship canal twice. Salmon spawning in the Green River travel through the Duwamish waterway twice. Alterations to these water bodies have forever changed the chinook habitat. Some alterations detrimental to salmon habitat include the removal of tidal flats and disruption of natural hydrology of the creeks and the land.

To respond to a Seattle City Council resolution, the Salmon Team developed the "Urban Blueprint" for

habitat protection and restoration. This blueprint provides the scientific foundation for habitat restoration in Lake Washington, the ship canal and Lake Union, nearshore areas, Duwamish Estuary, and the Locks.

While swimming through urban lakes, chinook need shallow habitat, fine substrates, and shallow gradient. While swimming through the Duwamish, chinook need shallow water, small substrates, and complex, off-channel habitat for rearing and adjusting to saltwater. In nearshore areas, chinook need eelgrass beds, shoreline terrestrial vegetation, and low gradient beaches.

The Salmon Team explained how the land and water interface can be improved for salmon and people. Some pilot projects have been completed. The City partnered with the Army Corps of Engineers to place 2000 tons of fine gravel at the edge of Seward Park. Previously, the shoreline, composed of large rocks, was a refuge for predators. Through these changes, the Salmon Team hopes to reduce the number of predators. Other shoreline parks have been redesigned for people and salmon. At Cormorant Cove, a community group removed existing bulkheads; these changes would be monitored. Community groups have also worked with Jones and Jones, Architects and Landscape Architects to design a re-grade of the banks at Duwamish street ends to accommodate creek ends; the creek runoff will create a marsh edge at the end of the creek. There may additional opportunities for improvements at Alki Beach. Changes may also be made to the Elliott Bay seawall to incorporate salmon friendly features. Rocks and rough concrete could be installed at the seawall, to provide a surface for algae. Additional projects may be focus on the need to integrate stormwater into urban development. These projects should address the velocity of the water runoff into creeks. Salmon habitat could also be built along industrial and commercial properties.

## **Key Commissioner Comments and Concerns**

- Recognizes that the seawall is so deep, and would like to know what could be done to improve the habitat for salmon.
  - Proponents stated that the improvements would not interfere with navigation of boats. Shelves with shallow edges could be built to create salmon habitat at different tides. This type of improvement has not been explored yet. A "habi-mat" has also been proposed along the Willamette River; this contains artificial seaweed to soften the edge of the river. Further stated that it is dark, under piers, and salmon avoid swimming into dark areas because their eyes do not easily adjust from light to darkness.
- Would like to know how the Commission would direct project managers, in order to address these concerns.
  - Proponents stated that project managers should be directed to the City Salmon Team. This team is working with the Seattle Art Museum Olympic Sculpture Park to identify opportunities. Further stated that the Salmon Team is aiding the design team with permitting concerns.
- Would like to know if the design team is working with the design team on the redevelopment of High Point.
  - Proponents stated that they are working with this team, and the interdepartmental team.
- Would like to know if the "Urban Blueprint" statement is strong enough. Would like to know if the "Urban Blueprint" needs further advocacy.
  - Proponents stated that more research must be completed. Further stated that the team has

been examining CIP project lists to identify opportunities. The team is speaking with CIP department managers. Further stated that in some areas of design, there is more uncertainty, and in the future, better design features will be clearer.

- Recognizes that the identified changes to the seawall are an additional cost. Suggests that there may be a way to design the new seawall structure so that the new seawall is part of the salmon habitat solution. Feels that these changes should be integral to the new seawall, rather than an added piece.
- Recognizes that the Locks are a significant visitor point. Suggests that there should be a means to distribute information about other salmon habitat and migration improvement projects at this location. Further stated that visitors should be directed to areas in order to experience the full cycle of migration.
  - Proponents stated that they have worked with the Army Core of Engineers to distribute a brochure about the Urban Blueprint.
- Would like to know what has been done to address salmon recovery to the east of Seattle. Would like to know how the State is dealing with salmon recovery.
  - Proponents stated that there are sixty-two different watersheds in the state. There are six watersheds in which the City has an interest. There are citizens committees that have been developed to plan the improvement for each of these watersheds. Further stated that regional watershed planning goals are under development.
- Recognizes the visibility of salmon in the Seattle Arts Commission's work.
  - Proponents stated that SPU capital money for art was used to focus on salmon in the Salmon in the City project.
- Recognizes that economic development creates these edges, and would like to recognize that this economic development sustains the region.
  - Proponents stated that economic development can be achieved with less hardscapes.
     Further stated that design team must rethink how the edges between land and water can be restructured.
- Recognizes that the design team for the South Lake Union wharf incorporated prisms in the deck of the pier, to bring light underwater, for salmon. However, there is a lack of scientific evidence explaining whether or not this is a good solution. Feels that there are too many interdependent layers, and there needs to be hard evidence explaining the possible design interventions.
  - Proponents stated that the "Urban Blueprint" suggests different fish needs that might indicate the desirability of certain design solutions, but research regarding the effectiveness of these solutions is underway.
- Recognizes the presentation should reinforce the point that development and improved natural environment are not mutually exclusive. Recognizes that specific elements serve certain functions to improve salmon habitat, without speaking to the physical representation of these functions. Encourages the team to recognize that, simply because something functions as a log, it does not necessarily have to look like a log.
- Would like to know if the Salmon Team has been involved with Sand Point/ Magnuson Park.
  - Proponents stated that they have not been as involved as they wished, but would like to be more involved.
- Appreciates the slides illustrating the salmon's view of Seattle, which contrasts with the human's perception of the city. Feels that the "Urban Blueprint" should enforce this perceptual shift.
- Feels that the team should not wait for scientific data before exploring opportunities. Feels that the

team should create the data.

 Proponents stated that the team is looking for opportunities for pilot projects in addition to opportunities for research.

# 21 February 2002 Commission Business

ACTION ITEMS	A.	<u>TIMESHEETS</u>
	B.	MINUTES FROM 7 FEBRUARY 2002 - APPROVED
DISCUSSION ITEMS	C.	OUTSIDE COMMITMENT UPDATES- CUBELL
	D.	ETC/ MONORAIL WORK SESSIONS- CUBELL
	E.	VIADUCT SPECIAL REVIEW SESSIONS - RAHAIM
	F.	DESIGN REVIEW UPDATES - GASSMAN
ANNOUNCEMENTS	G.	VIADUCT AND SEAWALL OPEN HOUSES
	H.	QUARTERLY REPORT TO COUNCIL- 2/22/02- RAHAIM

21 Feb 2002 Project: Automated PublicToilet (APT) Demonstration Program

Phase: Update

Previous Reviews: 7 September 2000 (Scope Briefing), 18 March 1999 (Briefing)

Presenter: George Banning, KJM Associates

Attendee: Kristian Kofoed, Department of Design, Construction, and Land Use

Time: .75 hour (SDC Ref. # 221 | DC00107)

Action: The Commission thanked the consultant for the presentation, and appreciates the tenacity required to implement this project.

- The Commission appreciates the bold decision to install free public toilets as a demonstration project and looks forward to the results;
- acknowledges the difficulty in selecting a vendor that meets the City of Seattle's signage requirements, but expresses some concern regarding the bulk and scale of the chosen APT's;
- recognizes the complicated process required to site these five APT's;
- supports the siting of the Pike Place Market, Pioneer Square, and International District APT's:
- supports efforts to identify an alternate site in the University District;
- encourages Seattle Public Utilities, other City agencies, and King County Metro to revisit the siting of the Ballard APT, and expresses concern regarding the removal of the existing tree; and
- looks forward to the implementation of this demonstration project in early summer.

Funding has been secured for five Automated Public Toilets (APT). Seattle Public Utilities selected the WCmatic model. Four chosen sites have been approved, and include Hing Hay Park in the International District, Washington Street and Occidental Avenue in Pioneer Square, Victor Steinbrueck Park, and Northwest Market Street and Twenty-Second Avenue in Ballard. Except for the Pike Place Public Market site in Victor Steinbrueck Park, these sites are within the right of way. These APT's will be installed in June or July. There are provisions for contract extension.



### **Key Commissioner Comments and Concerns**

- Would like to know why the existing tree must be removed to site the Ballard APT.
  - Proponent stated that the APT could move a few feet to the west, but the tree would be in the path of people entering or exiting the APT.

- Would like to know if the APT could be moved to the west and rotated, to avoid the tree.
  - Proponent stated that the prevailing winds come from the west, and the APT is sited in consideration of these winds. The community would like the entry to this APT on the east.
- Would like to know if the bicycle rack and bench could be moved.
  - Proponent stated that these changes would affect the bus loading area. Further stated
    that the team explored many different locations for the APT at this site, but every
    alternate location would impede pedestrian access to buses.
- Would like to know why the Pike Place Market APT is above the sidewalk.
  - Proponent stated that there is currently a planter at this location. To site the APT, the planter end will be removed, and the APT will be installed to align with the wall of the planter, and will not interfere with the right of way.
- Would like to know the purpose of the four feet of clear pavement behind the APT. Feels that people may try to sleep back there.
  - Proponent stated that this clearance is necessary for cleaning and maintenance. Further stated that the planter walls around this space are sixteen inches tall. Further stated that the team has reviewed sight lines with the Seattle Police Department and this area will be visible to passers-by.
- Would like to know the frequency of maintenance.
  - Proponent stated that the APT would be serviced by a human a minimum of two times a day in addition to the automated cleaning, which occurs after use. The aforementioned area behind the APT will also be cleaned in conjunction with the cleaning of the APT.
- Commends the consultant for the lengthy and involved process this project has required. Does not
  intend to increase the problems of this project, but would like to know if the Ballard APT site could
  be revisited.
  - Proponent stated that the sites must be approved within the next couple of weeks.
- Would like to know if the consultant considered other APT models. Would like to know why there is such a large empty space inside, and why the APTs are so large.
  - Proponent stated that, in March 2001, SPU issued an RFP to all suppliers, and there was only one response. Further stated that these are usually supplied by advertising companies, which would not comply with the City of Seattle signage requirements. Further stated that the public toilets in New York were purchased by private developers. Further stated that there are other superior public toilets with multiple options, but these would not comply the signage requirements. Further stated that there were only two choices, and the other rectangular model was less durable. This model was also rejected by the Pioneer Square Public Spaces Forum because it was not aesthetically pleasing.
- Would like to reiterate previous Commission concerns. Recognizes that the Commission hoped the
  public toilets would not only be stand-alone toilets. Would like to know if the use of water would be
  minimized.
  - Proponent stated that this option was explored, but there was a resounding lack of interest by private developers. Further stated that neither the Library, nor City Hall was

- interested. Further stated that the APT would be programmed to respond to use, and the seat would be cleaned after every use, but the floor would not be cleaned after every use.
- Recognizes that there has been a long-term desire for permanent public toilets throughout the city.
   Would like to know if there was documentation of the existing public toilets. Feels that there is a need for more than five locations throughout the city.
  - Proponent stated that there was a detailed study by the Department of Human Services, which will be forwarded to interested Commissioners.
- Would like to know the price of the APTs.
  - Proponent stated that the APTs would cost \$120,000 per year. The APTs would be free to the public and would not cost \$0.25. Washington State Law states that the public toilets must be provided free. Further stated that these public toilets would not be funded by the General Fund but from sewer and water rate payments.
- Would like to know if the proponent has identified a fifth location.
  - Proponent stated that they are trying to identify a site at Westlake Park, but there are many different issues with different locations within Westlake Park. Further stated that there are so many different events and implications to be considered, including the bus tunnel below.
- Would like to know if Capitol Hill was considered.
  - Proponent stated that the Capitol Hill community representatives did not feet that the APT would be appropriate in this area. Further stated that the Regrade Park was considered; there is currently a portable public toilet located there. Currently, there are many affluent neighbors in this area that do not want any public toilet located nearby. Further stated that the APTs are not intended to be toilets only for the homeless, and these high-tech facilities should be appropriate for use by anyone. Further stated that Freeway Park, at Sixth Avenue and Seneca Street, has been considered a potential site.