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Julie Bassuk Chair

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**Mary Fialko** 

**Laurel Kunkler** 

**Shannon Loew** 

**Tom Nelson** 

**Julie Parrett** 

**Osama Quotah** 

**Norie Sato** 

**Donald Vehige** 

**Debbie Wick-Harris** 

Valerie Kinast Coordinator

**Tom Iurino** Senior Staff



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## APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING

May 17, 2012

Convened 12:00pm Adjourned 4:30pm

### **Projects Reviewed**

Amazon at Westlake and Lenora Alley Vacation Fred Hutchinson Skybridge

### **Commissioners Present**

Julie Bassuk, Chair Julie Parrett Shannon Loew Osama Quotah Don Vehige Debbie Wick-Harris Norie Sato Laurel Kunkler Mary Fialko Tom Nelson

### **Staff Present**

Valerie Kinast Tom Iurino



May 17, 2012 Project: Fred Hutchinson Skybridge

**Phase:** Skybridge

**Last Reviewed:** Mar 15, 2012; Jun 16, 2011 **Presenters:** Rich Hill, McCullough Hill Leary, PS

Scott Rusch, Fred Hutchison Cancer Research Center

Allyn Stellmacher, ZGF

Marni Heffron, Heffron Transportation

**Attendees:** Angela Steel, SDOT

Barbara Gray, SDOT Beverly Barnett, SDOT

Chris Leman, Eastlake Community Council

David Broderson, ZGF David Grant, ZGF David Neal, ZGF Emelie East, FHCRC

Lloyd Douglas, Cascade NC Margery Aaronson, art advisor

Marni Heffron, Heffron Transportation

Robbie Philips, Fred Hutchison Cancer Research Center

Mike Hassenger, Seneca Group

Time: 2:45pm-4:30pm

### **Summary of Project Presentation**

The Fred Hutchinson design team presented its request to build a skybridge across Eastlake Ave to connect the 1100 Eastlake and Weintraub Buildings. Since its last presentation, the team more thoroughly explored the possibilities to enter the Weintraub Building at the street level and refined its public realm mitigation package. The team did not change the design of the skybridge.

The team studied opening the Weintraub Building to permit at-grade access. While it was physically possible, the team said it would be too disruptive to Fred Hutchinson's research operations. It would reduce the amount of space for a faculty member and would require relocating a lab; however, there was no empty lab space elsewhere. The cost to retrofit the entry and to move lab space was estimated at \$700-800,000. At the skybridge level, opening the building was much easier, and only a conference room would be displaced. The team judged the skybridge to be the best option to make this a critical connection.

The team presented its updated public realm mitigation package. The package included: a hill climb and overlook plaza, crosswalk, art opportunity, pocket parks and fence removal, and a landscaped slope. The team presented the experience of moving up the South Lake Union hill climb.

A member of the Eastlake Community Council asked why the public was not invited on a site tour, recommended Fred Hutchinson wait for City Council to act upon a proposed comprehensive plan amendment to govern skybridges in urban centers as they are governed in downtown, and asked Fred Hutchinson to reconsider the tunnel in lieu of a skybridge, questioning its rationale for dismissing it. The council member also did not approve of

the skybridge and asked that if the city approved one that Fred Hutchinson should fund a proposed I-5 linear trail to Colonnade Park.

### **ACTION (by Sato)**

The Design Commission thanked the team for its presentation of its request for a skybridge and associated public benefit, which included: a hillclimb and overlook plaza with plaza space, sidewalk, stair, seating, landscape, lighting and signage; a crosswalk with curb ramps; an art piece in a hardscape setting; an art piece in a landscaped setting; pocket parks and fence removal, seating, plaza space and landscape; and a landscaped slope known as the WSDOT triangle. The total square footage of the benefits was 12,500 sq ft. and estimated cost was \$1.381 million. The commission appreciated the amount of public benefit Fred Hutchinson offered; see the attached plans for a full description.

By a vote of 5-4, the commission recommended the SDOT Director approve the skybridge and public realm mitigation package, subject to the commission's administrative review of the refined design of the WSDOT triangle, art piece, and hillclimb. The commission made the following comments:

- Refine the design, purpose, and maintenance of the WSDOT triangle. Better define its features and who maintains it. If the WSDOT triangle is piece of a larger system of nearby open space, such as the Colonnade trail, show its integration.
- Refine the scope, design and placement of the art. The budget is small, especially for two pieces, and the locations are not the best. Consider investing in a single piece, and making the scale of the piece relate to those traveling by bus, bicycle and car.
- Make generous and public the entrances to the hillclimb. Design them so the public will want to use them, feel safe, and have views.
- Locate benches in smart places, such as at the bus stop, where people will use them.

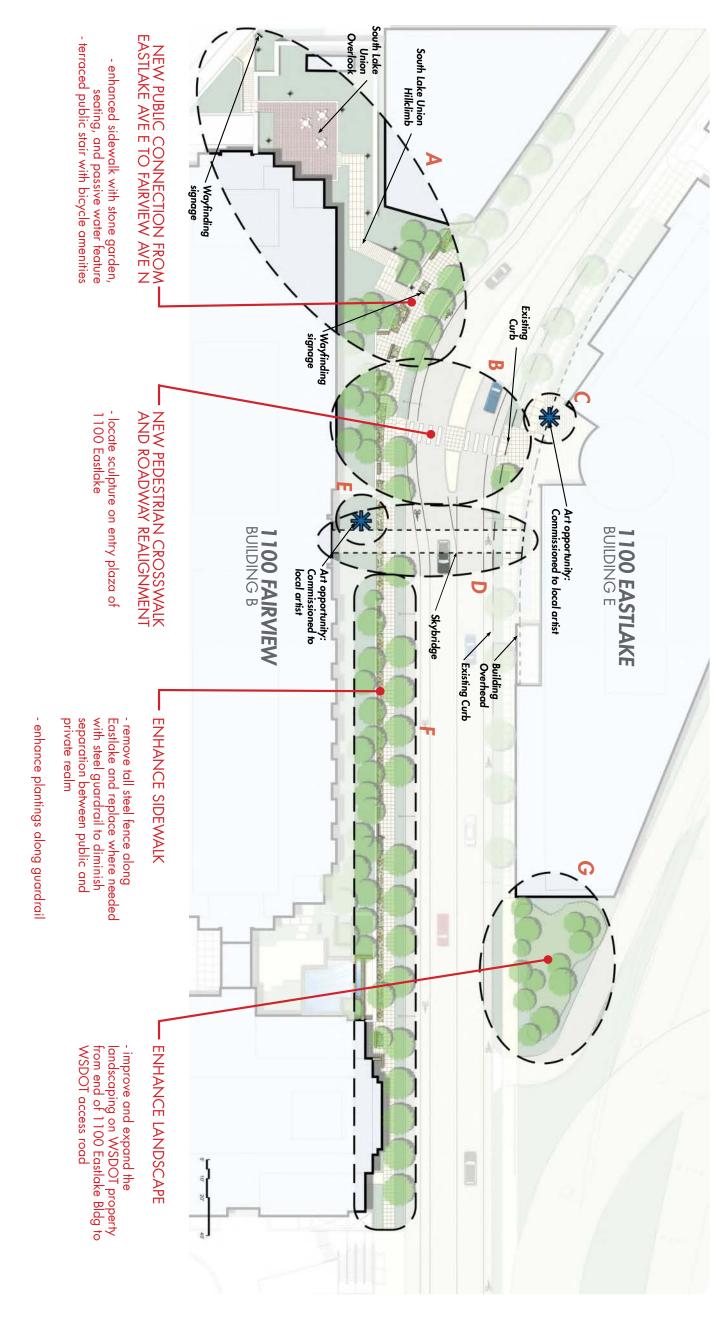
Commissioner Loew voted no because while he respected the center's work and its commitment to an urban location, he found it difficult to approve the use of public space for the convenience and safety of the applicant's employees and to increase creativity in the applicant's work.

Commissioner Bassuk voted no because the city set a high standard to warrant approval of a skybridge. The applicant did not strongly demonstrate its essential need for one or lack of other viable alternatives.

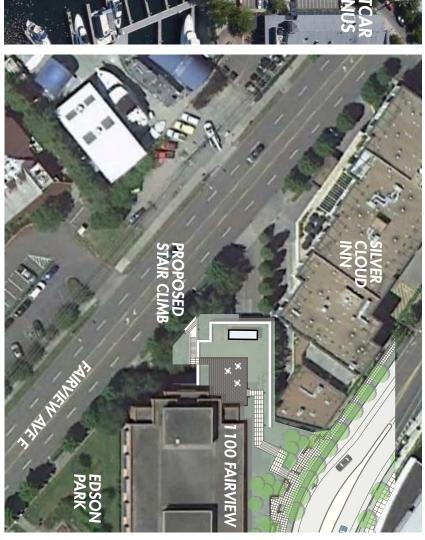
Commissioner Fialko voted no because the skybridge won't create the convenience for employees that the applicant sought.

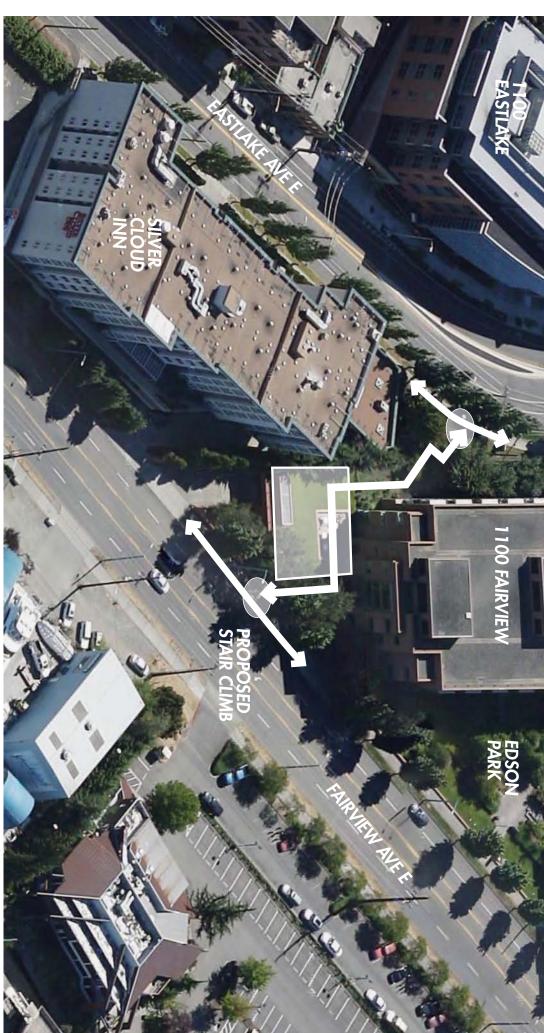
Commissioner Sato voted no because because aside from the reasons mentioned above with which she concurs, she felt that the center's decision to acquire the building was not conducive to its other goals of easy connection to the other buildings on campus and the creativity and serendipity that such interaction engenders. To ameliorate this issue, the center deemed the skybridge the only solution and it seemed unwilling to look seriously or more creatively at the other more internally initiated options of developing better street level entrances to the Weintarub Building.

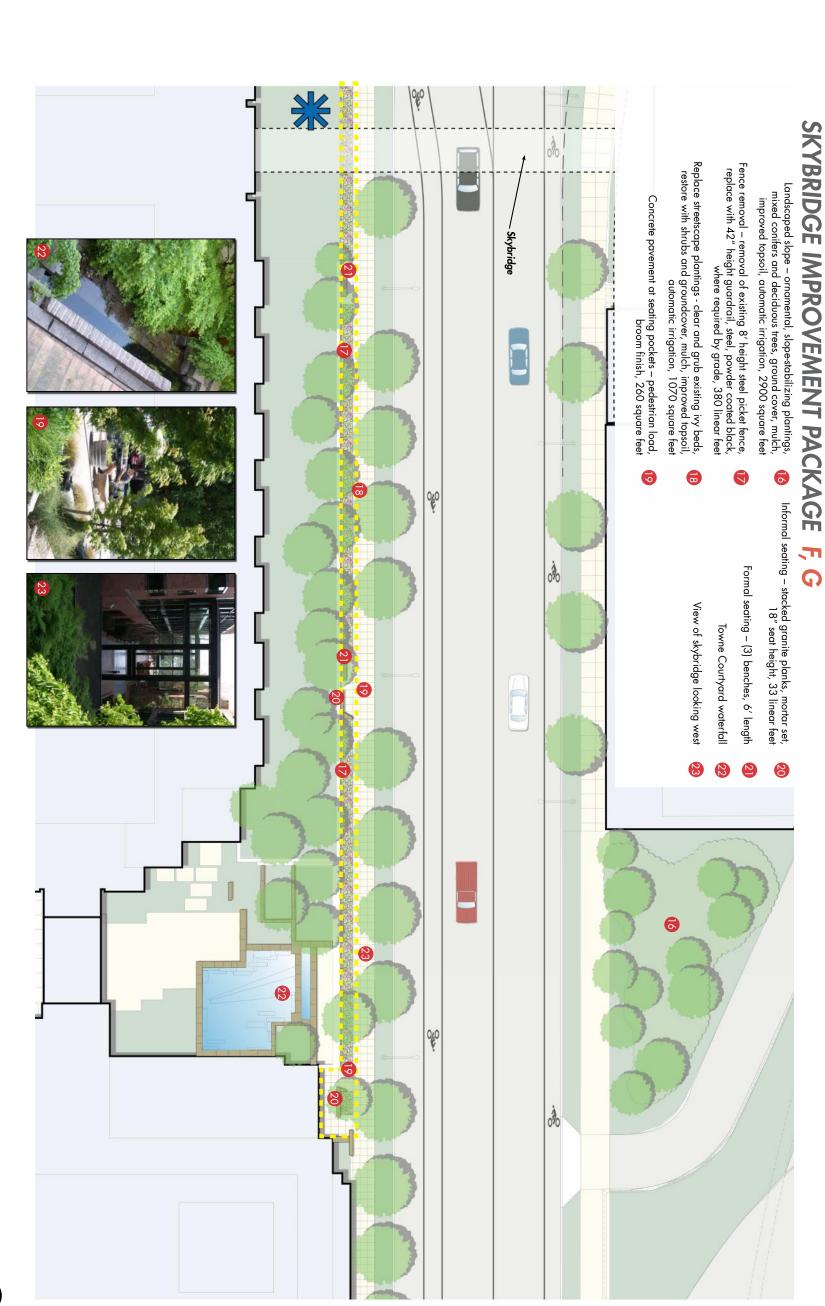
## SKYBRIDGE IMPROVEMENT PACKAGE











# SKYBRIDGE IMPROVEMENT PACKAGE A, B, C, D, E





ZGF

A NEW PUBLIC CONNECTION FROM EASTLAKE AVE TO FAIRVIEW AVE

### Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center Proposed Skybridge at 1100 Eastlake Ave. E

### **SKYBRIDGE PUBLIC BENEFIT PACKAGE SUMMARY:**

Amenity A	Cost \$664,000.00	Amenity Features  Hillclimb and Overlook Plaza  Private realm converted to public: 7,200 s.f.  Plaza space: 1,200 s.f.  Sidewalk: 83 l.f.  Stair: 64 l.f.  Seating: 96 l.f.  Landscape: 5,500 s.f.  Lighting: 8 pedestrian-scale fixtures  Vertical feet transitioned: 25'  Signage: 2 wayfinding sign
В	\$310,000.00	Crosswalk  Crosswalk w/curb ramps: 1
С	\$20,000.00	Art Opportunity  • Art: 1 sculpture in hardscape setting
E	\$20,000.00	Art Opportunity  • Art: 1 sculpture in landscape setting
F	\$332,000.00	<ul> <li>Pocket Parks and Fence Removal</li> <li>Private realm converted to public realm: 2,400</li> <li>Fence removed: 440 l.f.</li> <li>Plaza space: 1,150 s.f.</li> <li>Seating: 100 l.f.</li> <li>Landscape: 1,300 s.f.</li> </ul>
G	\$35,000.00	Landscaped Slope  • Landscape: 2,900 s.f.
Project Cost	\$1,381,000,00	

Total Square Footage of Skybridge Public Benefit Package Features: 12,500 s.f. Total Square Footage of Skybridge: 855 s.f.



