Capitol Hill Design Guidelines Update – Work Group meeting #9

Meeting Summary
May 3rd, 2018

Work Group Members present
☐ Leslie Bain  ☐ Jess Blanch  ☐ Lincoln Ferris  ☐ Erik Rundell
☐ Brian Baker  ☑ Lana Blinderman  ☑ Whitney Fraser  ☑ Saunatina Sanchez
☐ Matthew Benedict  ☑ McCaela Daffern  ☐ Rob Ketcherside  ☐ Alicia Daniels Uhlig
☐ Don Blakeney  ☑ John Feit  ☐ Mike Mariano

Staff present
☑ Christina Ghan (SDCI)  ☑ Patrice Carroll (OPCD)  ☑ Aaron Hursey (OPCD)

Additional Attendees
☑ Melissa Wechsler (Consultant)

On May 3rd, 2018, the ninth work group session was held at 12th Ave Arts (1620 12th Ave) in the Capitol Hill Neighborhood of Seattle. This meeting was cohosted by the City of Seattle’s Office of Planning and Community Development (OPCD) and Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) and the Capitol Hill EcoDistrict, a project of Capitol Hill Housing. The work group, which consists of over a dozen renters, homeowners, and business owners who live, work, and/or socialize in the Capitol Hill Neighborhood, will help with the update of the current Capitol Hill Neighborhood Design Guidelines. The goal of the meeting was to review and comment on the draft of the Capitol Hill Neighborhood Design Guidelines.

The meeting was attended by five work group members, the project consultant, and three city employees. The meeting was facilitated by Patrice Carroll, of OPCD. The meeting began by discussing community outreach opportunities for the May 30th Community Open House.

Patrice Carroll and Christina Ghan then led the discussion on the draft Capitol Hill Design Guidelines. We reviewed suggestions that work group members sent prior to the meeting, and other major topics where staff wanted more input from the working group. Group members also discussed which photos should be used to adequately represent/reinforce the guidelines for each section. The group also agreed to make the following changes, or gather additional info/photos:

- Introduction - Add photos to show examples of character buildings
- CS1 Photos – building that used to be “World of Beer” on Belmont (topography); project in Fremont that collects stormwater (water features)
- CS 2 - Remove guidance on key corner sites
- CS2 – ask merchants about neon signage
- CS 2 Photo – move photo #3 to PL illustrate good example of residential edge; add a photo of the new Hugo House (fit) as an example
- CS 3 - Encourage spaces that evolve over time to accommodate art or makers space uses
- CS3 Photos - Consider using photos of the old Anhalt building (character); Arts Lofts and/or Century Ballroom (cultural spaces); mural on Walgreens building (placemaking); as well as examples from arts districts in other cities
- PL 2 – Remove some of the guidance related to an inclusive/LGBT+ neighborhood
- PL 2 – Remove the guidance for wayfinding
- PL2 – Reword to be access for all abilities
- DC1 Photo – Consider using photos of the Poco Wine Bar, 12th Ave Arts dance performance in lobby, rendering of Pike Motorworks’s back space (flexibility); Yardhouse (garage entrance)
- DC2 Photo – retail façade w/o aluminum storefront system; retaining wall used for seating; Belroy, small house from walking tour, blue Building by library, Jewish Family Services Center, 1310 Union
- DC 2 – Edit guidance on retaining walls to encourage seating instead of focusing on materials
- DC2 – Consider limiting the number of materials- the more intersections, the harder it is to get details right