

UNIVERSITY DISTRICT OPEN SPACE FORUM #2

UNIVERSITY DISTRICT OPEN SPACE FORUM

A community conversation



WELCOME



Project Goal

Create a community-owned plan for providing & improving public spaces & parks in the University District.



Roles

Community members

U District Square

University District Partnership (UDP)

Steering Group

Dep't of Planning & Development (DPD)

Parks & Recreation

University of Washington

Consultants:



Steering Group Members:

- Rebecca Barnes, University Architect, Capital & Campus Planning
- Doug Campbell, Business Owner
- Cory Crocker, University District Square & Resident
- Marty Curry, University of Washington Urban Planning instructor
- Theresa Doherty, University of Washington Regional & Community Relations
- Jeanette Henderson, University of Washington Real Estate
- Kristine Kenney, University of Washington Landscape Architect
- Dave LaClergue, City of Seattle Department of Planning & Development
- Dorothy Lengyel, University District Parking Associates & Resident
- Elizabeth McCoury, University District Partnership (CEO)
- Chip Nevins, Seattle Parks & Recreation
- Barbara Quinn, University Park Community Club
- Ruedi Risler, University Park Community Club
- Scott Soules, Property Owner, University District Parking Associates
- Roger Wagoner, Resident
- Steve Wilkins, University District Community Council & Resident

Meeting Goal

Identify the kinds of spaces & connections that are desired along with design criteria.

2006 U District Parks Plan: Relevant Priorities

- "A centrally located park, approximately one-half acre in a high-volume pedestrian area with current or projected multi-family mixed-use buildings; this type of park should be designed to accommodate a variety of recreation uses."
- "A number of smaller plazas in high-volume pedestrian areas."



Project Timetable



Agenda

PRESENTATION

- Welcome
- Findings from Community Meeting #1
- Lessons Learned from Portland's Urban Parks

WORK SESSION

- Small Group Discussions
- Share & Revisions

NEXT STEPS & ADJOURN



FINDINGS FROM COMMUNITY MEETING #1



Question #1

*What guiding **principles** or **values** do you propose for developing open space in the University District?*



Inclusiveness

- Parks & open spaces for all, welcoming to everyone of all ages & abilities
- Inclusiveness in the planning & design
- Collaboration between the University of Washington & the U District community
- Flexible & multiple uses



Safety

- Well managed spaces
- Activated by adjacent uses
- Clean, well-lit, monitored & maintained open spaces
- Welcoming & hospitable



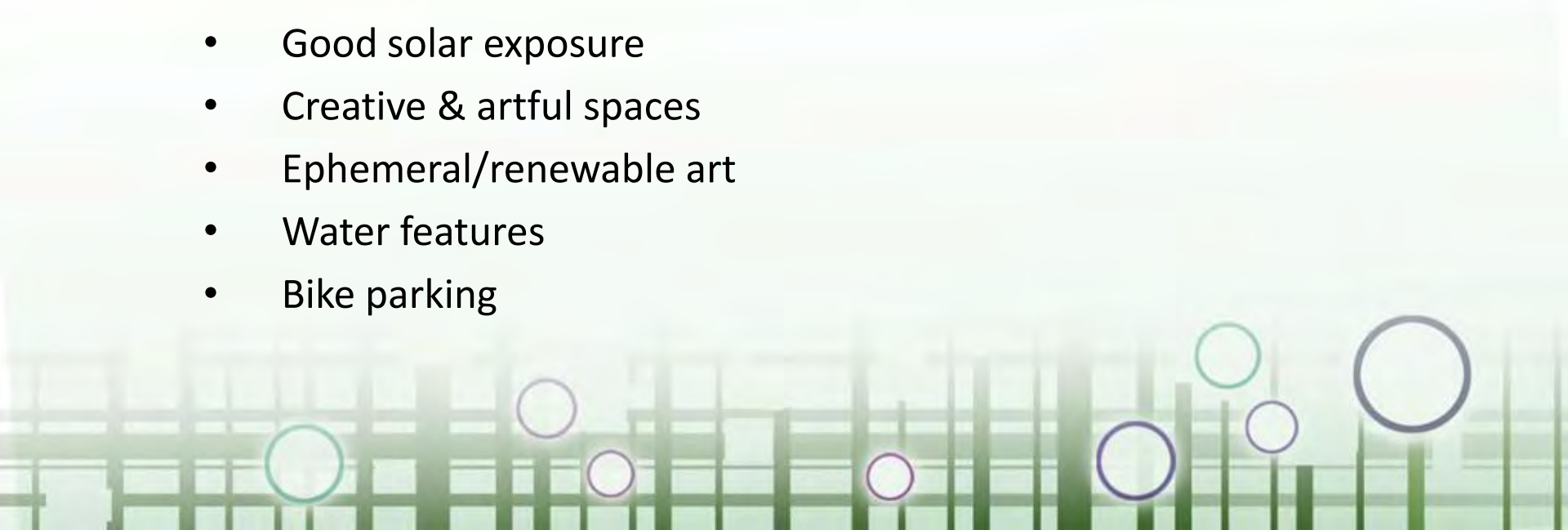
Neighborhood Identity

- Town center that defines identity
- Centrally located public space near the transit center
- U District becomes known as a neighborhood characterized by a network of open spaces
- Integrated art



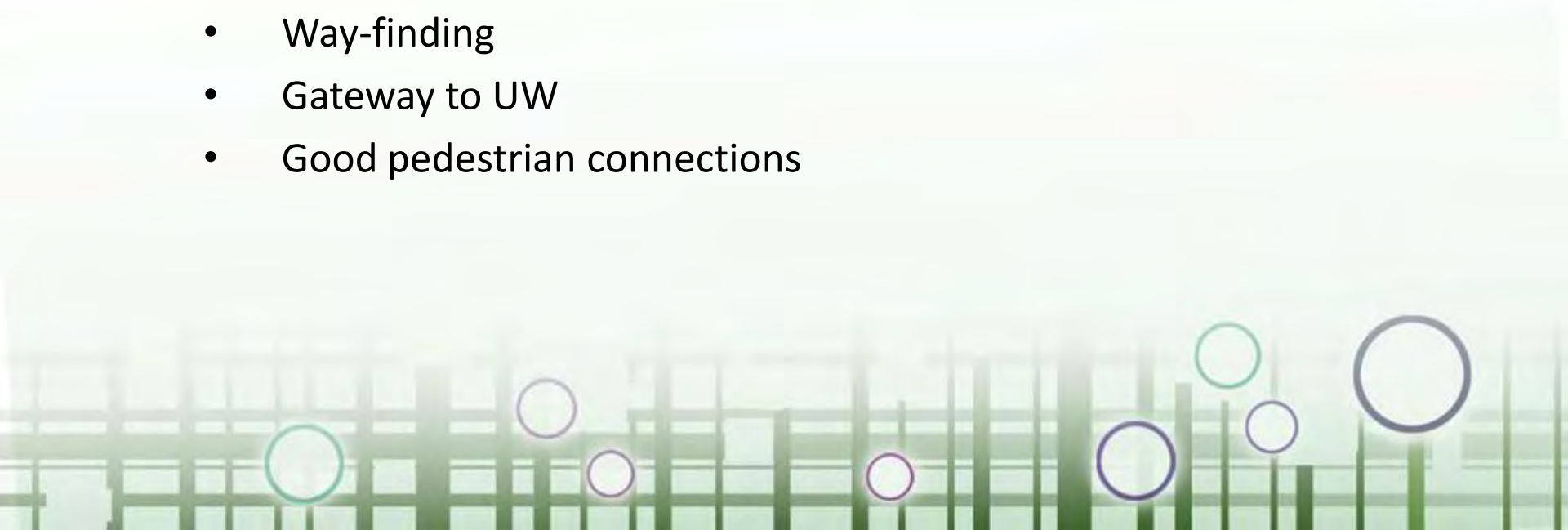
Livability

- Activated 24 hours/day
- People have places to sit
- Spaces with public restrooms
- Work in all seasons
- Good solar exposure
- Creative & artful spaces
- Ephemeral/renewable art
- Water features
- Bike parking



Connectivity

- Co-location with transit
- Centrally located public space that serves as an identifying “town center” for the U-District
- Extend & link open spaces
- Way-finding
- Gateway to UW
- Good pedestrian connections



Connection to Nature

- Spaces abundant with green & natural areas
- Support biodiversity & wildlife
- Passive water treatment
- Interaction with water & its sounds



Variety of Spaces

- Destination spaces
- Pedestrian-only spaces
- Pedestrian meeting spaces
- Spaces for children
- Gardens
- Rooftop public spaces
- Public spaces on streets – increased ‘spaciness’
- Abundant green spaces
- Restful & relaxing spaces
- Gathering places
- Intimate seating & people-watching



Question 2

*Given the suggested guiding principles & values, what kind of **functions & activities** do you envision?*



Socializing & Meeting People

- Street fairs
- Markets
- Sporting events
- Soap boxes
- Dance & exercise
- Demonstrations



Eating & Drinking

- Dinner & drinks outside
- Food trucks
- Eat lunch



Musical Performances & Outdoor Movies

- Outdoor movies & performances
- Street musicians



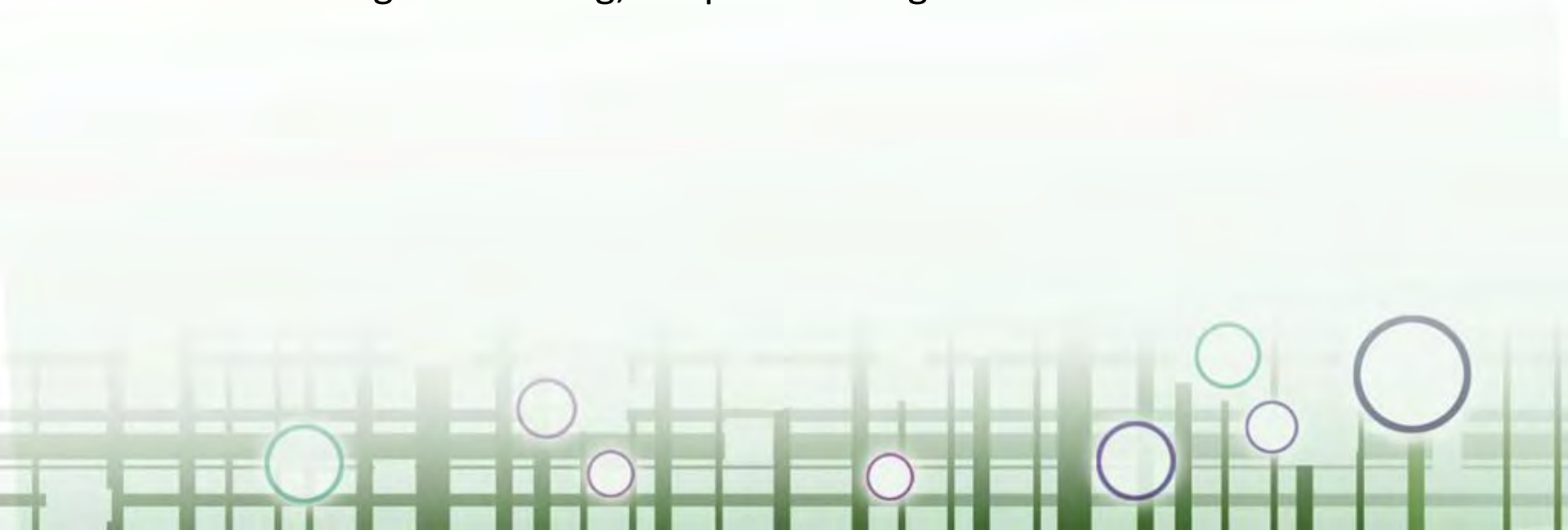
Playing for all Ages

- Climbing wall
- Swings for adults
- Basketball court
- Features for people with disabilities



Sitting & Relaxing

- Napping or Sleeping
- Relaxing
- Reading
- Study in public (Wi-Fi)
- Sitting & observing; People watching



Interacting with Nature

- Places to learn about plants & nature
- Gardening
- Physical interaction with water & water sounds



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Common Themes



A tension between the desire for places that are **safe & orderly** & the desire for places that are **social & spontaneous**.



A tension between wanting **vibrant populated** spaces & spaces for **calmness & quiet**.



A desire for both a **centrally located 'heart' area** & a wide range of **connected spaces serving multiple functions.**



The tension between preserving residential open spaces/backyards while accommodating thousands of new units in the next 20 years.



LESSONS LEARNED FROM PORTLAND'S URBAN PARKS

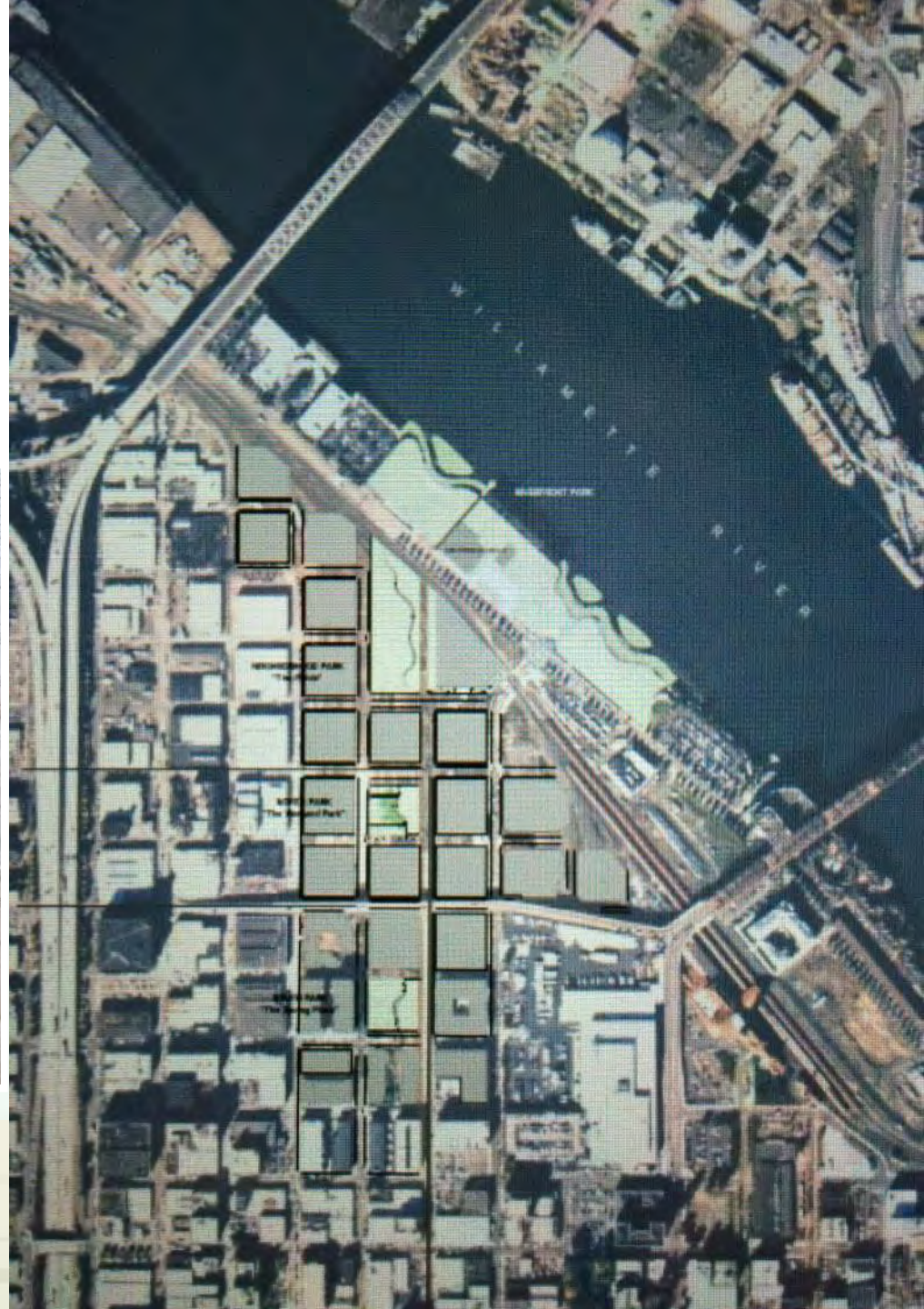


Key Elements for Success

- Location
- Surrounding Land Use
- Park features & Design
- Programming
- Maintenance & Security
- Community Participation & investment



The Pearl District



Network of Parks



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Park Types

Public Square



A Neighborhood Park



Quiet Garden

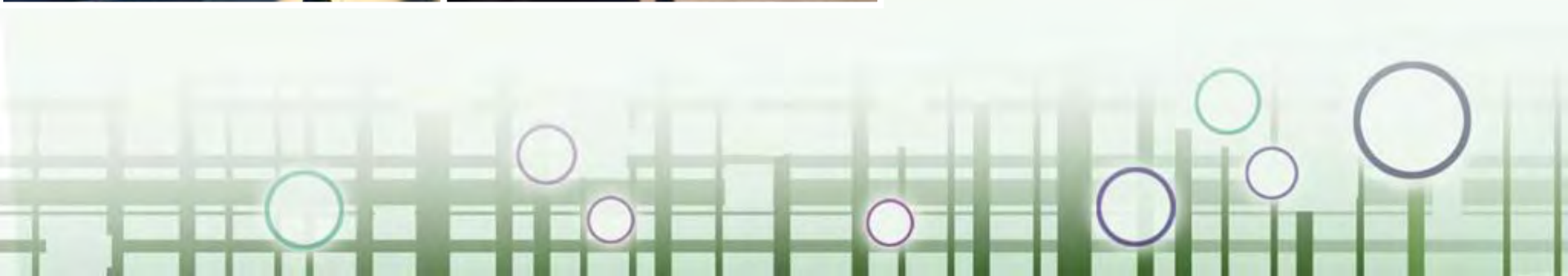
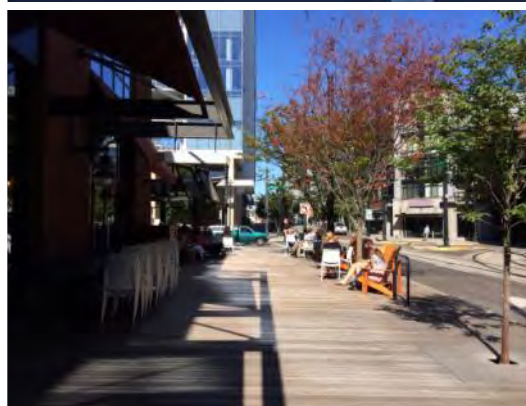


← Connectors →



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Criteria for Public Square



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Criteria for Quiet Garden



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Criteria for Neighborhood Park



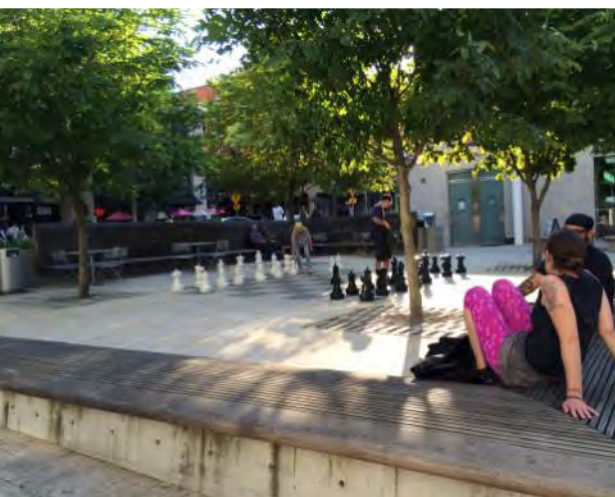
Management & Operation of Urban Parks

- Programming
- Maintenance
- Security
- Management Responsibility



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Programming



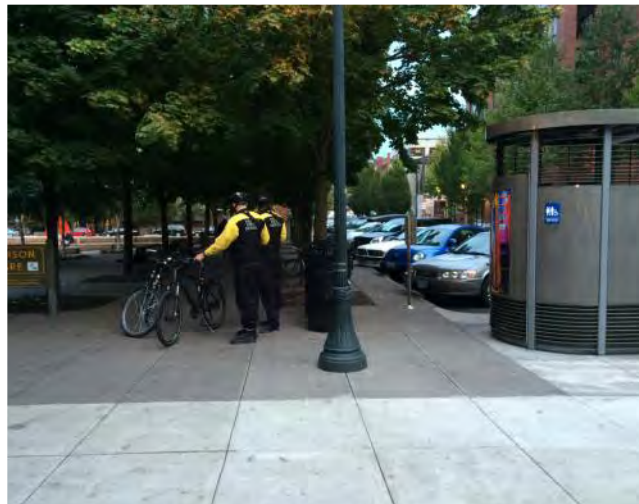
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Maintenance



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Security



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Management Responsibility



Summary of Key Elements

- Collaborative approach to needs assessment, design, & management
- Importance of location & adequacy of size
- Accessibility to primary users
- Visibility from streets & adjacent uses
- Quality of design & construction
- Elevated level of programming, maintenance, & security



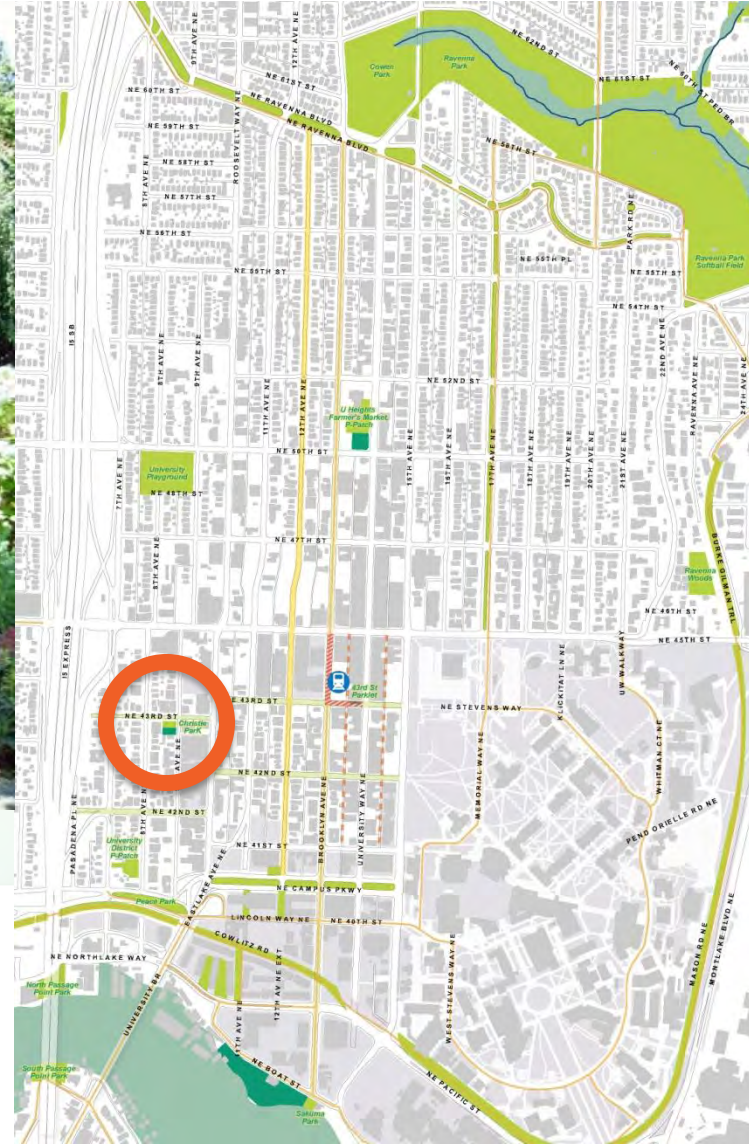
WORK SESSSION



The Design Process

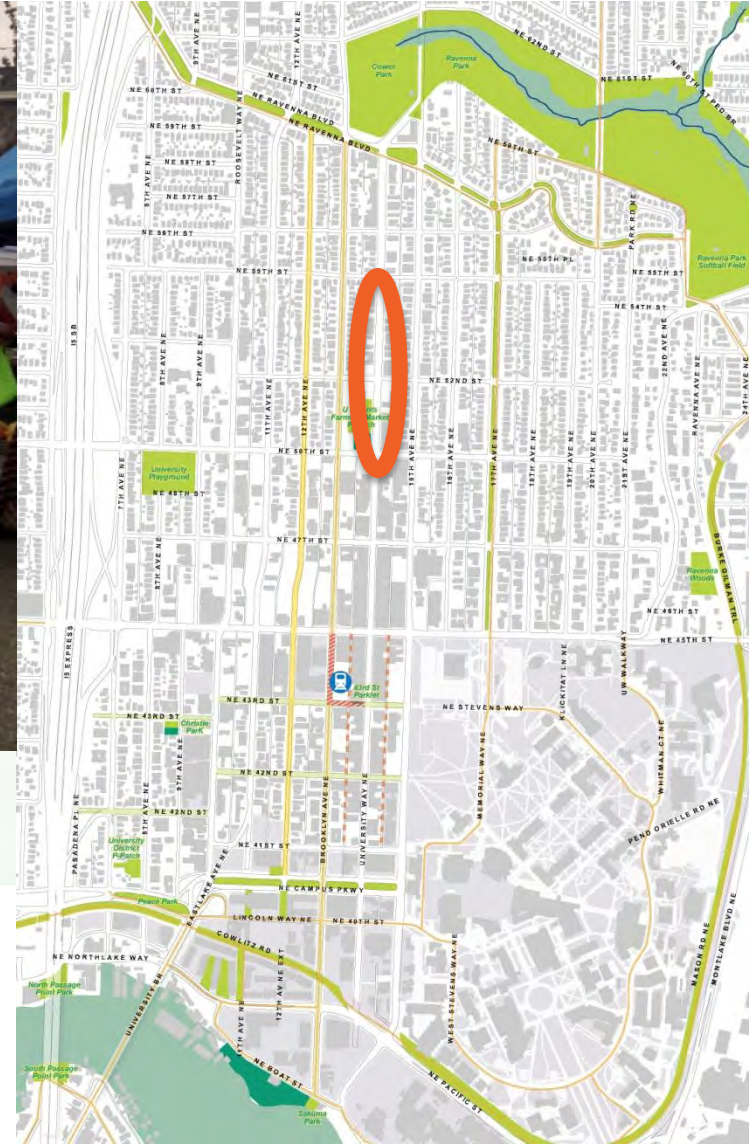


Community Parks

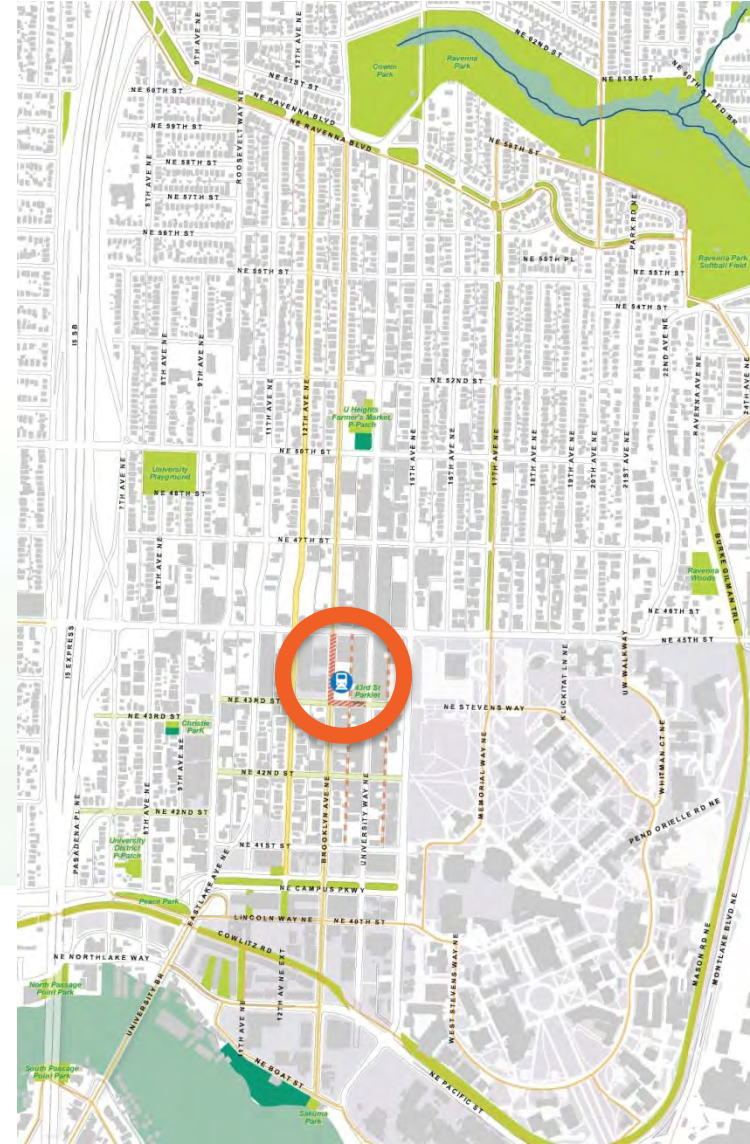
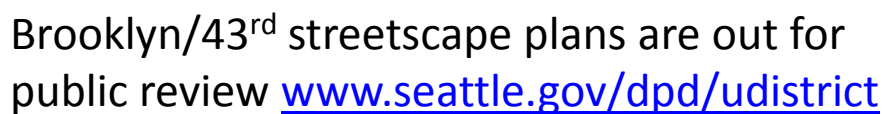


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Street Closures

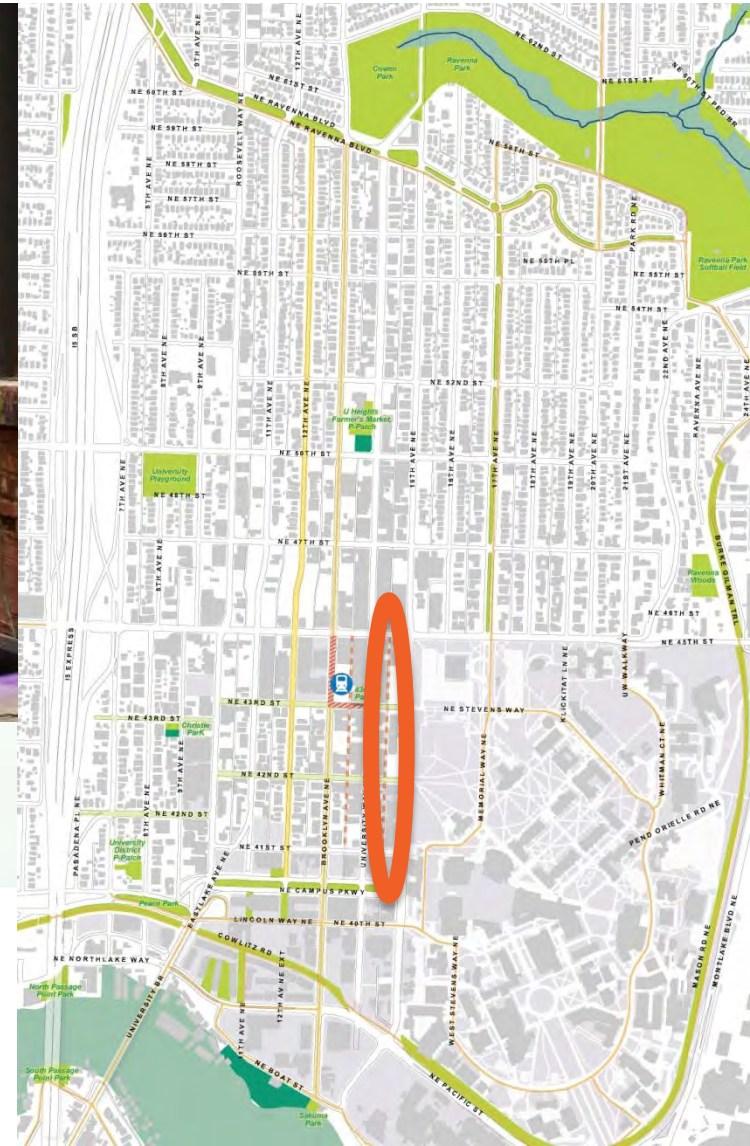


Festival Streets



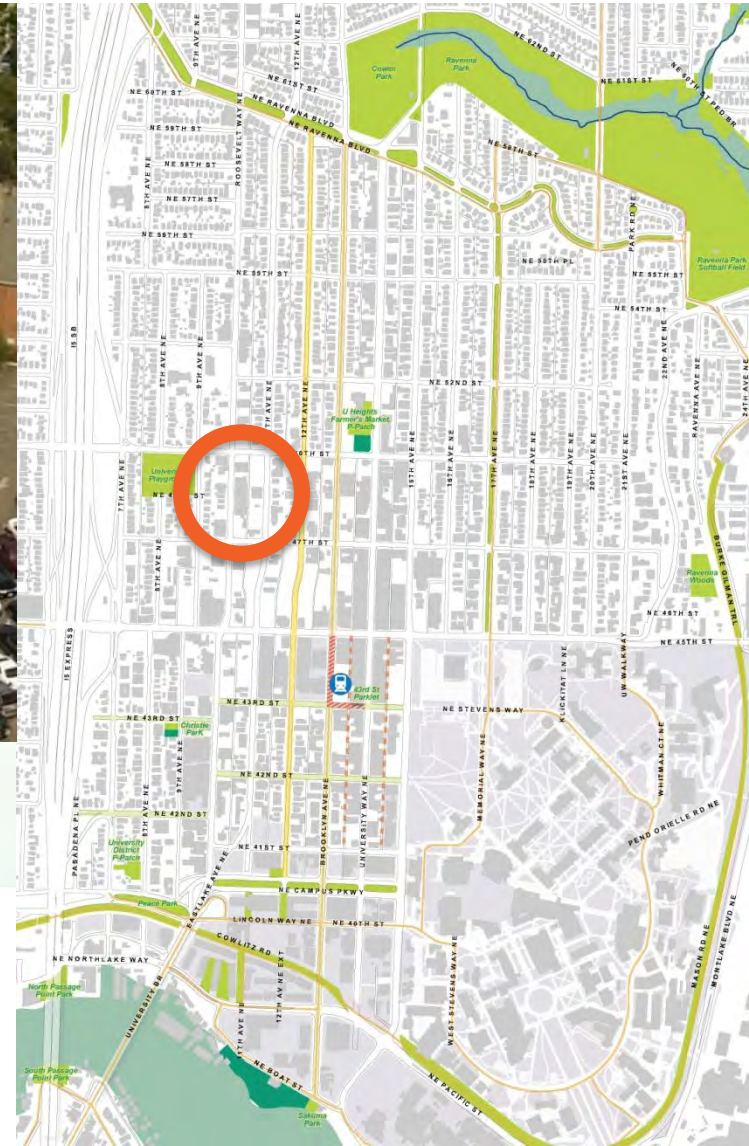
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Alleys



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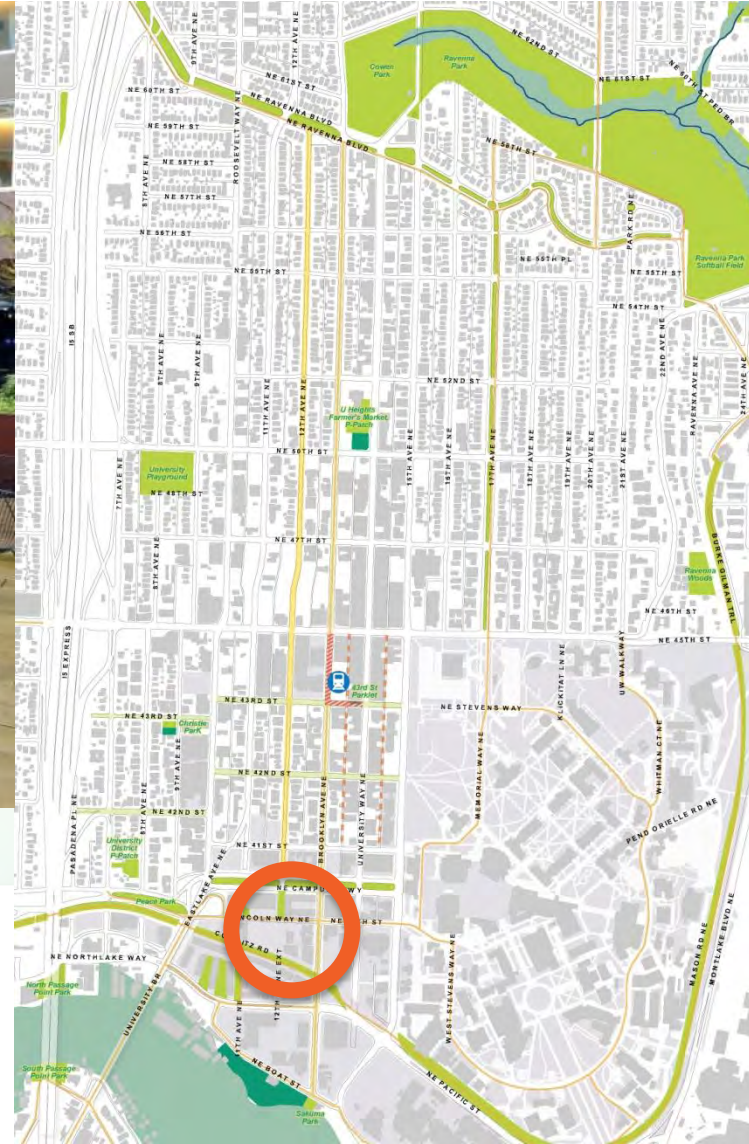
Green Roofs & Amenity Spaces



In Between Spaces

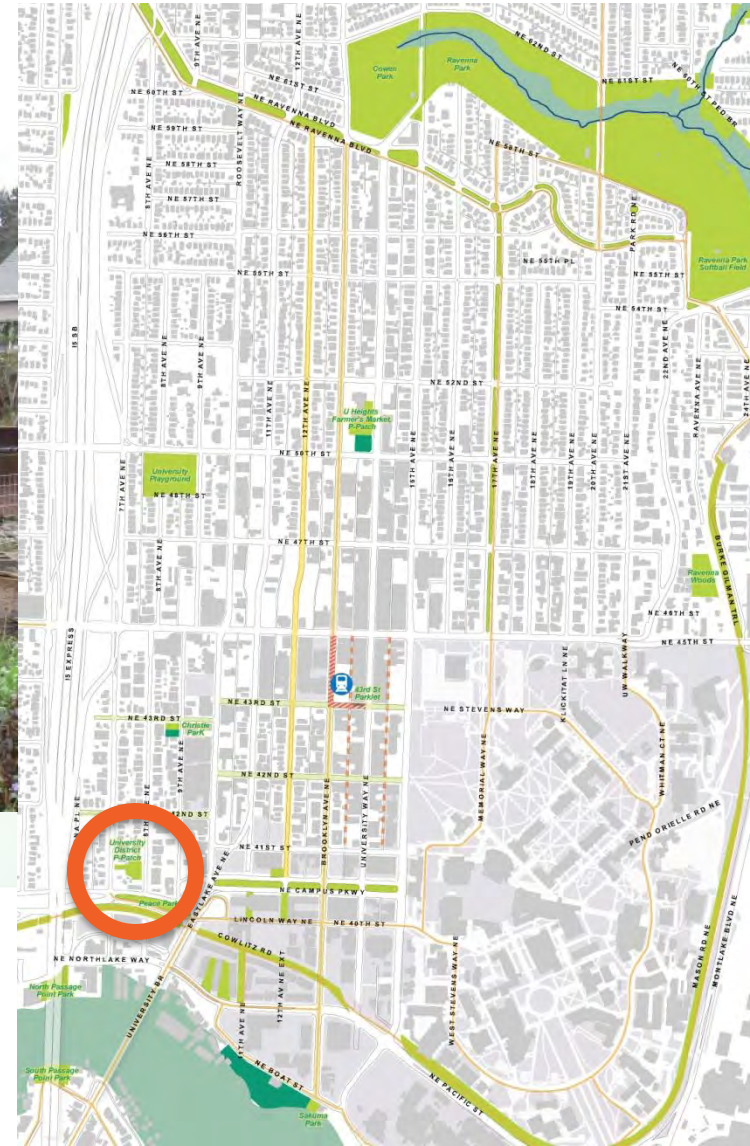


Note: Image of UW property.



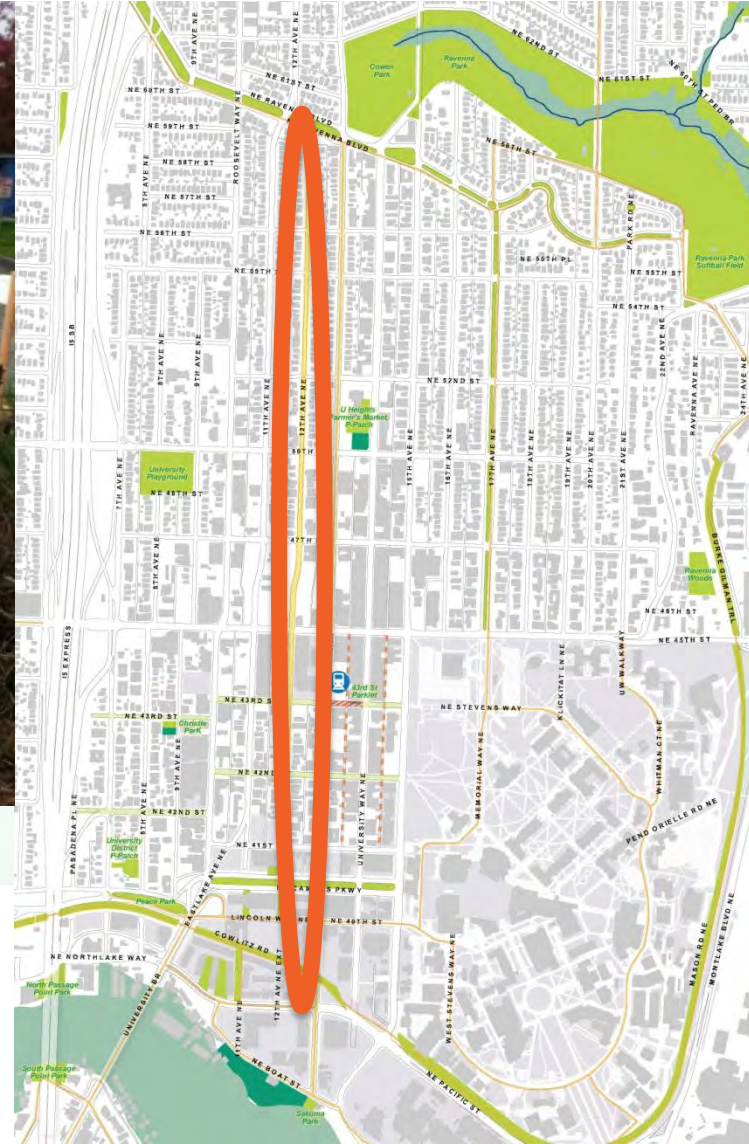
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Community Gardens



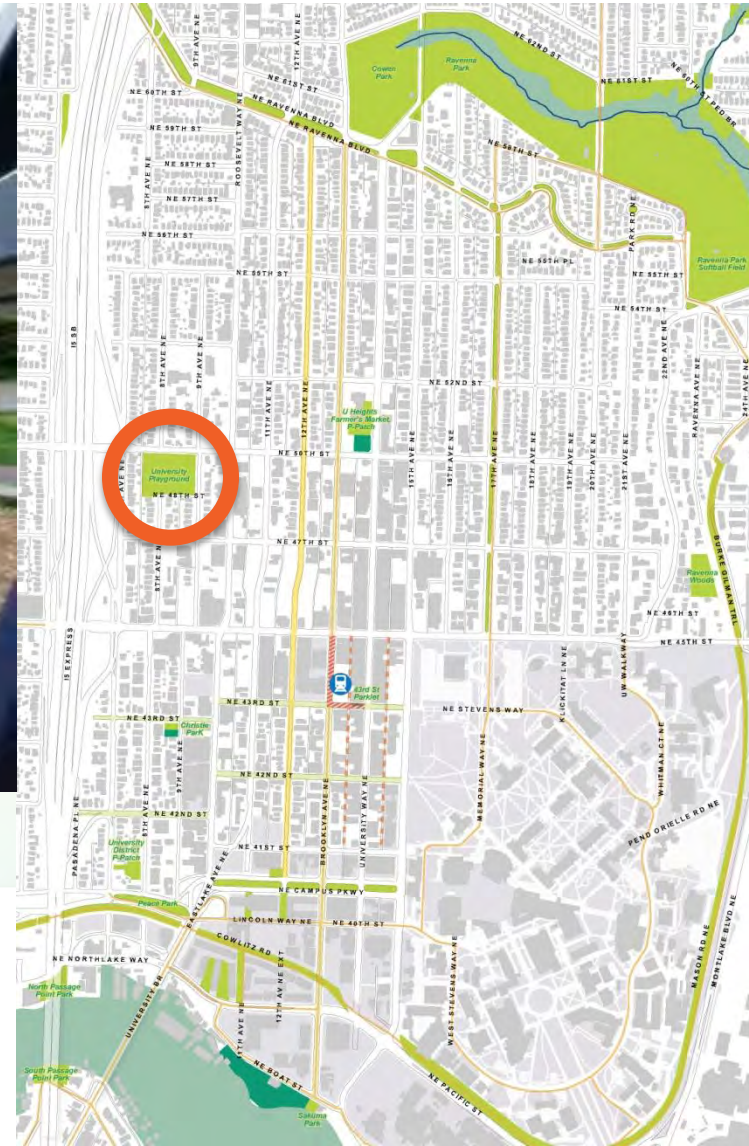
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Residential Streets



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Active Spaces

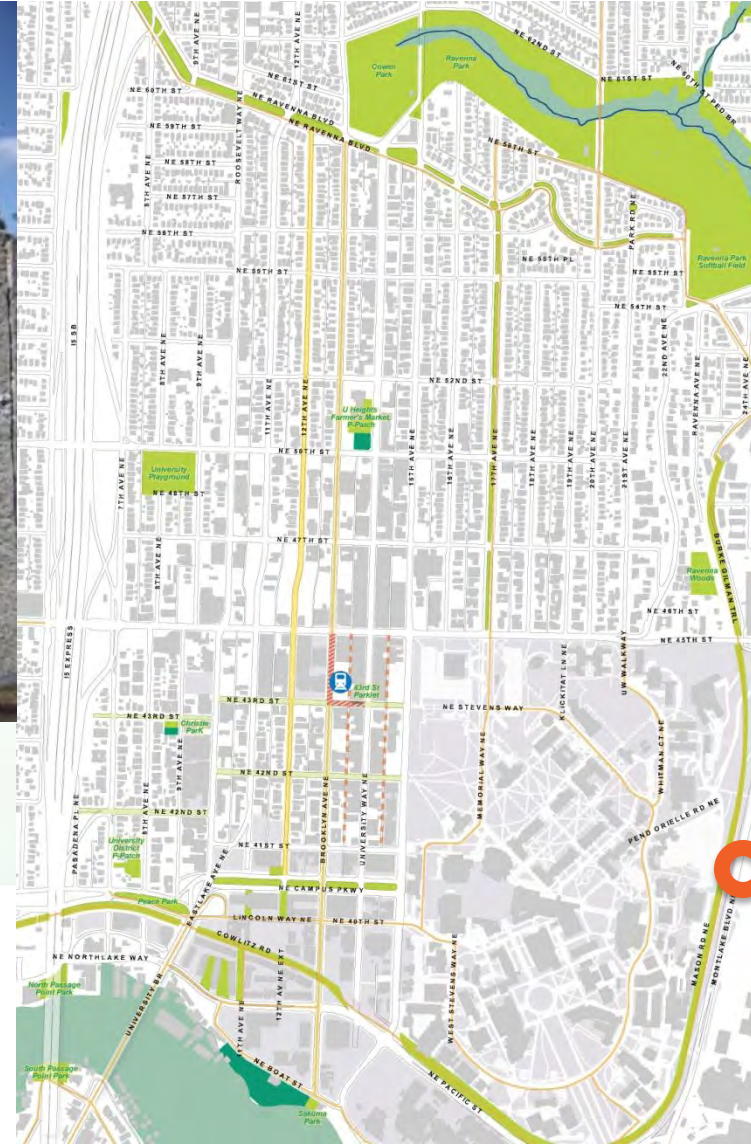


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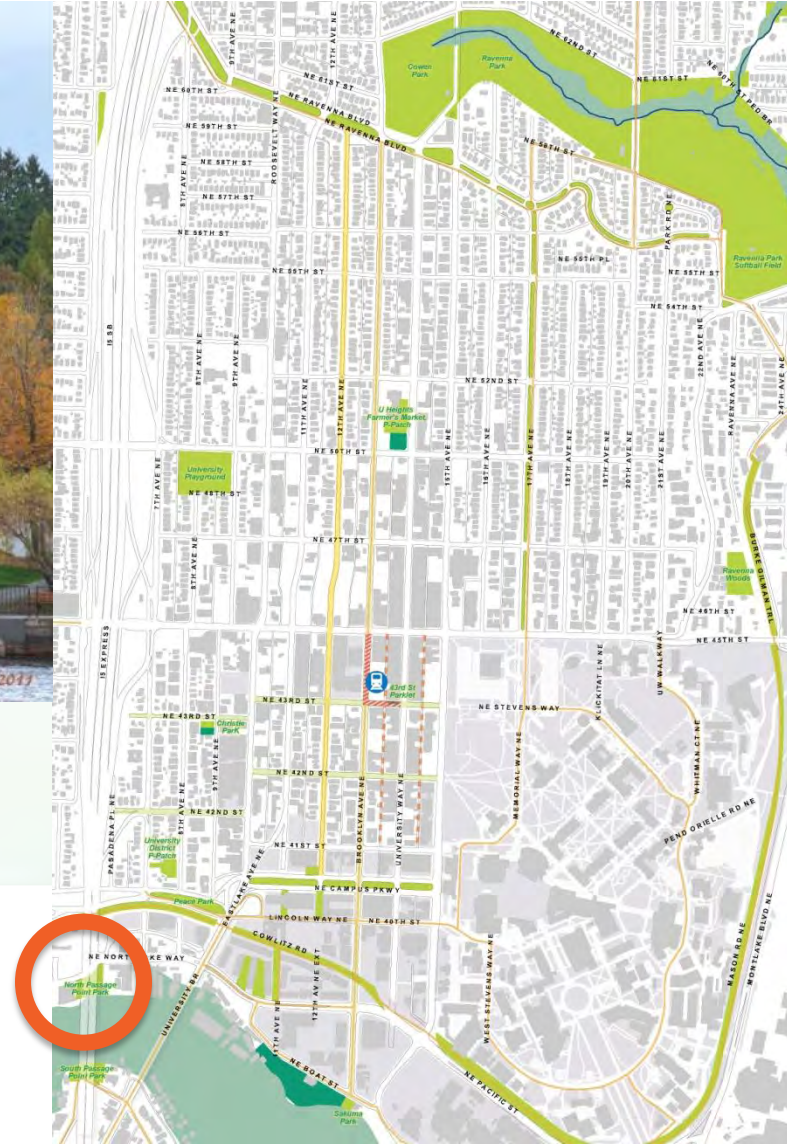
Play (for adults too)



Note: Image of UW property.



Shores & Trails



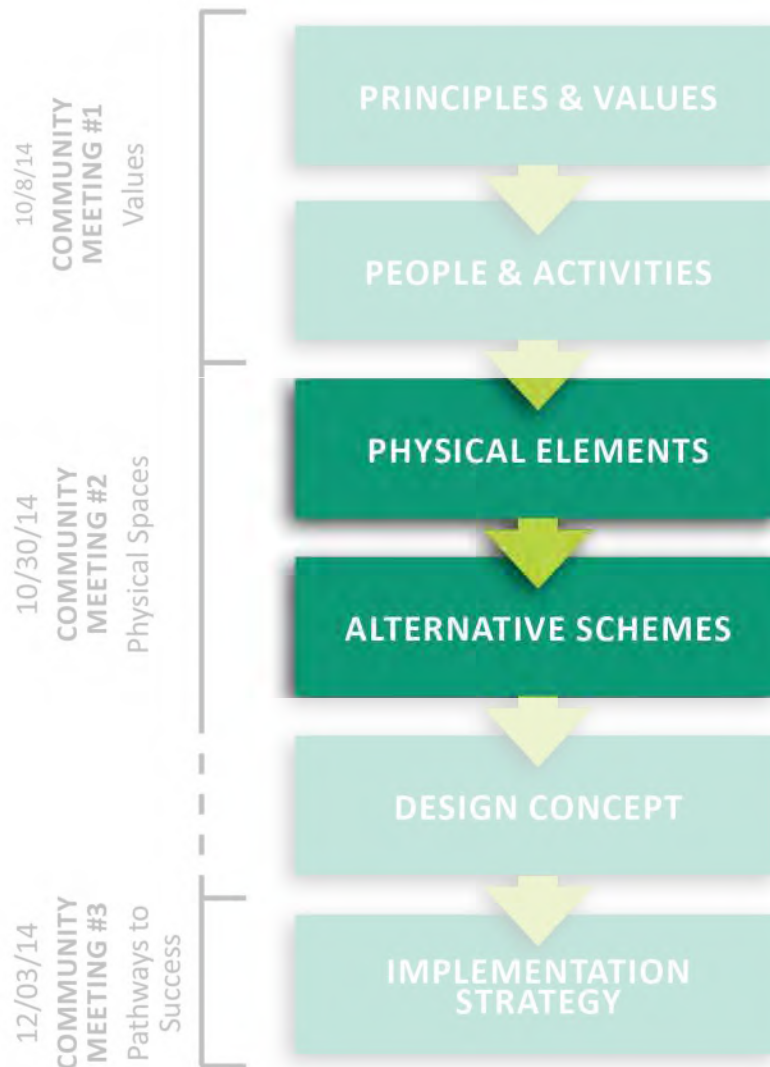
2035 Projected Open Space Deficit

4.9 ac. =

approx. 2 blocks
the size of
University Heights



Tonight's Work Session



PHYSICAL ELEMENTS

- List potential elements/spaces
- Develop location criteria
- Identify performance standards

ALTERNATIVE SCHEMES

- Locate elements on maps provided
- Consider connections

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Worksheet

UNIVERSITY DISTRICT OPEN SPACE FORUM WORKSHOP #2

TABLE #5

Program Worksheet

Functions & Activities	Potential Design Elements (i.e., sidewalk cafes, playground, signage)	Location Criteria (e.g., to access sunlight)	Size (e.g., number of people)	For Who & When
Socializing & Meeting People				
Eating & Drinking				
Musical Performances & Outdoor Movies				

Mapping Alternative Schemes

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- Land Uses
- Existing Park
 - Planned Park
 - UW Property
- Proposed Street Designations
(based on current street names and U.S. DOT)
- Green Street
 - Neighborhood Greenway
 - Alley Activation
 - Festival Street
- Circulation
- Bicycle



Ground Rules

- Everyone participates, together we know more
- Engage, not recruit
- Practice generosity
- No jargon
- Be positive; propose something better
- Be civil, no blaming, no accusations
- Be willing to change your mind when hearing new information
- Look for solutions where all can succeed



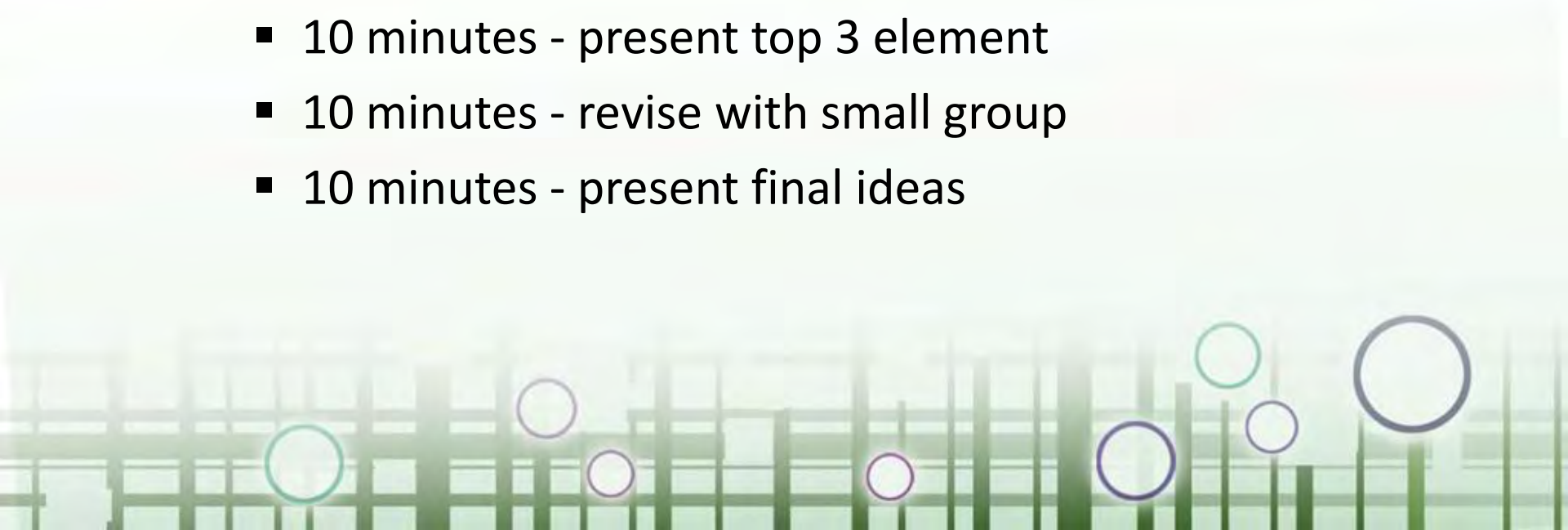
Tonight's Work Session

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (45 min)

- 25 minutes - identify physical elements
- 15 minutes - map your open space system
- 5 minutes - select top 3 elements

PRESENTATION & REVISIONS (30 min)

- 10 minutes - present top 3 element
- 10 minutes - revise with small group
- 10 minutes - present final ideas



Stay Involved

UPCOMING COMMUNITY MEETINGS:

December 3, 7-9 pm

MINUTES & REPORTS @:

www.udistrictpartnership.org

