

FDUD MEETING #5: PUBLIC SPACE NETWORK



September 7, 2012

Overview

Goal: establish a common understanding of planning tools and existing conditions

- Categories of public space
- Public space uses
- U District existing conditions



Categories: public property

- Parks – owned and managed by Seattle Parks
- P-Patch Community Gardens – managed by Dept. of Neighborhoods, open to public but plots by reservation
- Streets
 - ▣ Green streets
 - ▣ Festival streets/woonerfs



Categories: private property

- Privately owned public spaces (“POPS”) – required for certain kinds of development, public access required as a permit condition
 - ▣ Plazas & “pocket parks”
 - ▣ Through-block ped pathways
- Residential amenity space – 5% of residential floor area for every building, only open to residents (not public, but adds to network for residents)



Categories: UW campus

- ❑ Lawns, plazas, and trails
- ❑ Large collection of mature trees
- ❑ Open to the public, but different mgmt from City parks



Planning tools

- Land use regulations:
 - ▣ Public access requirements
 - ▣ Residential amenity area
 - ▣ Streetscape improvements
- Design guidelines
- Special street designations, streetscape plans
- Buying property/capital improvements



Public space uses

- ❑ Passive uses: seating, views, people-watching
- ❑ Playgrounds
- ❑ Food cultivation
- ❑ Walking & exercise
- ❑ Dog runs
- ❑ ???

Consider the needs of different user groups.



Comp Plan goals; existing gaps

- Urban center goals include:
 - ▣ 1 acre per 1,000 households (about 6.5 acres in U District)
 - ▣ All locations within about 700 feet of a park
- U District identified as one of 7 deficient areas in north Seattle
- Planned parks to meet quantity goals, but not distribution
- Context is important: campus and Burke Gilman play unique roles



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