

Meeting #5: Public space network DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Primary questions (address all)

- The individual parks, streets, and other open spaces in the U District all play distinct roles. How well do these pieces form a network? How can connections be improved, and what gaps need to be filled?
- How can existing and planned public spaces provide the greatest benefits for the neighborhood's function and character? (i.e., introducing new uses, making physical upgrades, etc.)
- How can campus entrances along 15th Ave be enhanced to be more inviting to the general public? (see photos)

Secondary questions (pick one or more)

- Which parts of the planning area are most in need of additional public space? For each area where you recommend new public space, discuss:
 - What kinds? (park, street, privately-owned public space, through-block pedestrian pathway, etc.)
 - What uses would activate the space? (try to identify 3+ reasons people would consistently want to use the space.)
 - What is the optimal size or configuration? (given the uses you've identified, how big of an area could realistically be activated?)
- How should the public space network balance the needs of various user groups? Which groups are already "covered," which need more amenities?
 - Children
 - Teenagers/youths
 - College students
 - Adults
 - Seniors
- Members of the community frequently cite concerns about drug dealing, drug use, and other illegal activities in public spaces. How can existing and future amenities serve the public while managing this problem?

"Bonus" questions (if time allows)

- What locations act as key entrances into the U District and its major activity centers? How can these nodes be emphasized through physical changes (streetscape, architecture, public art, etc.)
- What roles should each designated green street play? For each street, what is the relative importance of each of the following features within finite right-of-way space?
 - Expanded pedestrian facilities (wider sidewalks, curb bulbs, etc.)
 - Dedicated bike facilities
 - Landscape features (street trees, ornamental plantings, rain gardens)