

December, 2024

Next Generation Engagement Workshops

South Park Water Quality Facility
Community Investment Plan



Contents

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About the Workshops

Intent & Goals

The City of Seattle was invited by the Duwamish Valley Youth Corps (DVYC), a program of the Duwamish River Community Coalition, and the Duwamish Valley Sustainability Association (DVSA) to facilitate youth workshops with middle and high school students during the fall of 2024. The workshops are part of an annual cohort series that DVYC has conducted for many years to embed environmental justice advocacy into the culture of the community. Seattle Public Utilities partnered with Mithun as part of the South Park Water Quality Facility Community Investment Plan to develop four workshops conducted with both groups.

The goal of the workshops was to exchange information and co-design site plans for the surplus land remaining after the water quality facility is built. The groups learned and shared background information about the natural and cultural history of the neighborhood, pedestrian and multi-modal connections, existing and future land uses, planned capital projects, specifics about the water quality facility, design parameters, and student priorities for potential community uses and benefits on the surplus land. Families came together to celebrate and learn about what the students designed at the annual DVYC Environmental Justice Symposium in November 2024.



Information exchange with next generation



Building advocacy within the next generation



Co-designing ideas for the site

Dates

Workshop 1 - Project Introduction

DVYC October 24th, 2024 (Thurs)

DVSA October 30th, 2024 (Wed)

Workshop 2 - The Duwamish River

DVYC October 31st, 2024 (Thurs)

DVSA November 6th, 2024 (Wed)

Workshop 3 - Site Connectivity & WQF Options

DVYC November 7th, 2024 (Thurs)

DVSA November 13th, 2024 (Wed)

Workshop 4 - Site Concept

DVYC November 14th, 2024 (Thurs)

DVSA November 20th, 2024 (Wed)

Graduation

DVYC November 23rd, 2024 (Sat)

DVYC = Duwamish Valley Youth Corps - A 10-year old youth engagement program of the Duwamish Community Coalition focusing on environmental justice and job skills. By providing experiences and lessons that are unavailable to the youth at home or school the purpose of the DVYC is to enrich and build upon their own lived experience.

DVSA = Duwamish Valley Sustainability Association - Empowering residents of the Duwamish Valley in issues related to quality of life, health and education to identify opportunities for equitable economic growth for the community without harming the environment.

What the students said:

A VISITA AL SITIO PREGUNTA N# 1:
TABLE-RO DE ¿De qué manera cree que el sitio podría beneficiar a la comunidad?
 (Coloque sus fotos, poemas, dibujos, etc. en el espacio a continuación.)

- Noticed Sea level elevations on stones
- Amazing views + less trashy, cleaner + nicer
- Duwamish river, boats w/ evidence of contamination
- Surprised to see that many bushes/plants
- Noticed that it was the first pump station for storm water in Seattle
- A lot of boats + ships. Saw ~~the~~ folks repairing the ships by welding.
- Large orange flood walls + Bags of sand to protect the ~~river~~ riverside.
- Very industrial (no sidewalks or houses). The area was also flooded. Storm water pipes.
- Orange flood wall/sand bags
- Also noticed how industrial the site is + past issues w/ flooding. There was a strong odor on the riverside.
- Huge tarp covering a pile of rocks. It's a dry-wall material (masonry). The tarp prevented it from spreading.

A VISITA AL SITIO PREGUNTA N# 2:
TABLE-RO DE ¿Qué le inspira en este lugar/en el sitio?
 (Coloque sus fotos, poemas, dibujos, etc. en el espacio a continuación.)

- Would like more sand bags ^{and} riverside protection along the edge.
- Community center, park, skate park to bring the community together + make the space beautiful.
- Gathering space for community
- Sustainable design
- Larger park / hang-out spot / field / courts or swimming pool for younger teens + kids.
- Event venue or Hall. Eco-friendly rain gardens along the river edge.
- Empty community gathering halls for parties.
- Connection hub; transportation + access to increase the use of sustainable transportation.
- Food forest / community garden

• No sé qué es un proyecto de capital pero infiero que sería sea un proyecto importante, como un trabajo para un lugar como South Park.

• Me alegro saber que cada vez hay más proyectos en beneficio de la comunidad. Estos proyectos ayudan a mejorar el futuro de SP de manera positiva ya que es el su objetivo principal.

Hablemos de Proyectos de Capital.

- ¿Sabe qué es un proyecto de capital?
- Con toda la nueva construcción, trabajos viables y proyectos que están ocurriendo en South Park, ¿cómo se siente al respecto?
- ¿Cómo cree que estos desarrollos darán forma al futuro del vecindario?
- ¿Ha participado en alguno de los DOP?

ESPACIOS VERDES Y DISTANCIA A PIE

Distancia a pie a zona verde con servicios:

- 0-5 min
- 5-10 min
- 10-15 min

Hablemos del Espacio Verde.

- ¿Siente que los espacios verdes en el vecindario son suficientes?
- ¿Siente que los espacios verdes en el vecindario son seguros?
- ¿Siente que los espacios verdes en el vecindario son accesibles?
- ¿Siente que los espacios verdes en el vecindario son saludables?
- ¿Siente que los espacios verdes en el vecindario son seguros para los niños?
- ¿Siente que los espacios verdes en el vecindario son seguros para las personas con discapacidad?
- ¿Siente que los espacios verdes en el vecindario son seguros para las personas mayores?
- ¿Siente que los espacios verdes en el vecindario son seguros para las personas de color?
- ¿Siente que los espacios verdes en el vecindario son seguros para las personas LGBTQ+?
- ¿Siente que los espacios verdes en el vecindario son seguros para las personas de bajos ingresos?
- ¿Siente que los espacios verdes en el vecindario son seguros para las personas que hablan otros idiomas?
- ¿Siente que los espacios verdes en el vecindario son seguros para las personas que viven en viviendas precarias?
- ¿Siente que los espacios verdes en el vecindario son seguros para las personas que viven en zonas de alto riesgo de inundación?
- ¿Siente que los espacios verdes en el vecindario son seguros para las personas que viven en zonas de alto riesgo de contaminación?
- ¿Siente que los espacios verdes en el vecindario son seguros para las personas que viven en zonas de alto riesgo de cambio climático?

The students shared their observations from their initial site walk. They were struck by the views of the river, the lack of sidewalks, and the industrial character of the area. A few students noted the importance of protecting the site from flooding. After reviewing maps of capital projects and parks in the neighborhood to understand existing assets, the students shared ideas for site uses that would benefit the community. Many expressed interest in community halls and gathering spaces, multi-generational attractions such as swimming pools, sustainable transit options, and nature-based uses such as community gardens, food forests, and rain gardens.

"I'm happy to know that there are more and more projects benefiting the community."

DVYC Youth

"The green spaces in South Park are not really sufficient, there are only 5 that provide services, and it's not equitable. I enjoyed visiting them. I think in the summer the view is great, but sometimes there's trash or you could get involved with pollution."

DVSA Youth

Workshop 1 Key Takeaways

From DVSA group

- Site Observations:** Overall, the youth recognized the site's industrial nature, environmental challenges (flooding, contamination, lack of green spaces), and the need for stormwater management. They also expressed concerns about pollution and lack of recreational spaces.
- Priority Benefits:** The youth's feedback highlights a strong preference for green spaces, sustainable infrastructure, and environmental protections over development. They want the site to be more community-friendly, with recreational areas and gathering spaces, while also addressing flooding and pollution concerns.
- Mind Mapping Exercise:** Youth envisioned welcoming, clean, and pollution-free public spaces along the river where the community can gather, play, and connect with nature without concerns about industrial contamination. Their drawings emphasized the need for environmental restoration, green spaces, and recreational areas that are safe and accessible for all.

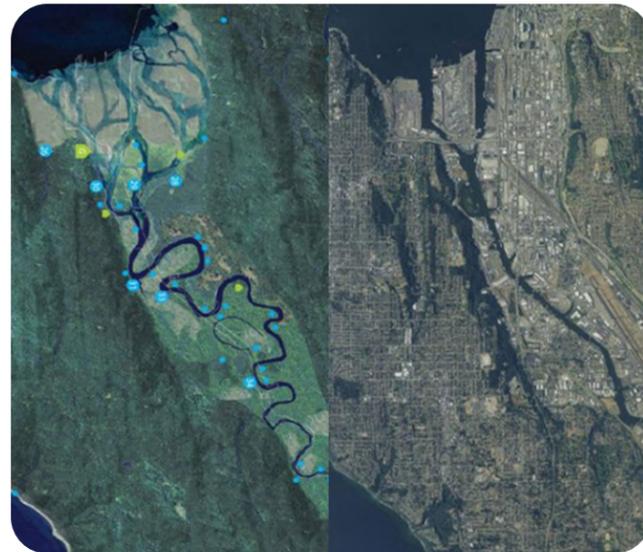
From DVYC group

- Site Observations:** Enthusiasm for being near the river, amazement at the scale of the gypsum piles, and recognition that walking was not comfortable without sidewalks. There was also concern about how the neighborhood will be protected from flooding.
- Priority Benefits:** Community gathering spaces, a vegetated shoreline that supports fish habitat, business incubator space, and iconic play spaces such as a floating swimming pool or a nature play area.
- Mind Mapping Exercise:** There was interest in the connections to neighborhood greenways and future transit opportunities.

Workshop 2

The Duwamish River

Workshop 2 delved into the story of the Duwamish River: with youth participants learning its natural state and habitats before industrialization, the impacts and pollution caused by industrialization, and the flood challenges faced by the South Park neighborhood due to sea level rise, storm surges, king tides, and groundwater rise. The session also highlighted the city's ongoing habitat restoration efforts and strategies to protect the river and its surrounding communities. Building on this knowledge, youth discussed the types of shoreline restoration typologies and community benefit programs they want to see implemented at the water quality facility site. Lastly, working in groups, participants created site sections that incorporated their priorities for land uses, mobility options and nature-based approaches to the shoreline.



Agenda:

Info Session: Story of the Duwamish River

Activity 1: Shoreline Typologies & Community Benefits

Activity 2: Create your own Shoreline Sections!

What the students said:

C ACTIVITY BOARD

What typology/typologies would you like to see at the Site?
(Put a sticker under the typology you would like to see. You can vote for more than one. Typologies can be combined adjusted.)

← SOFT SHORELINE TYPOLOGY → HARD

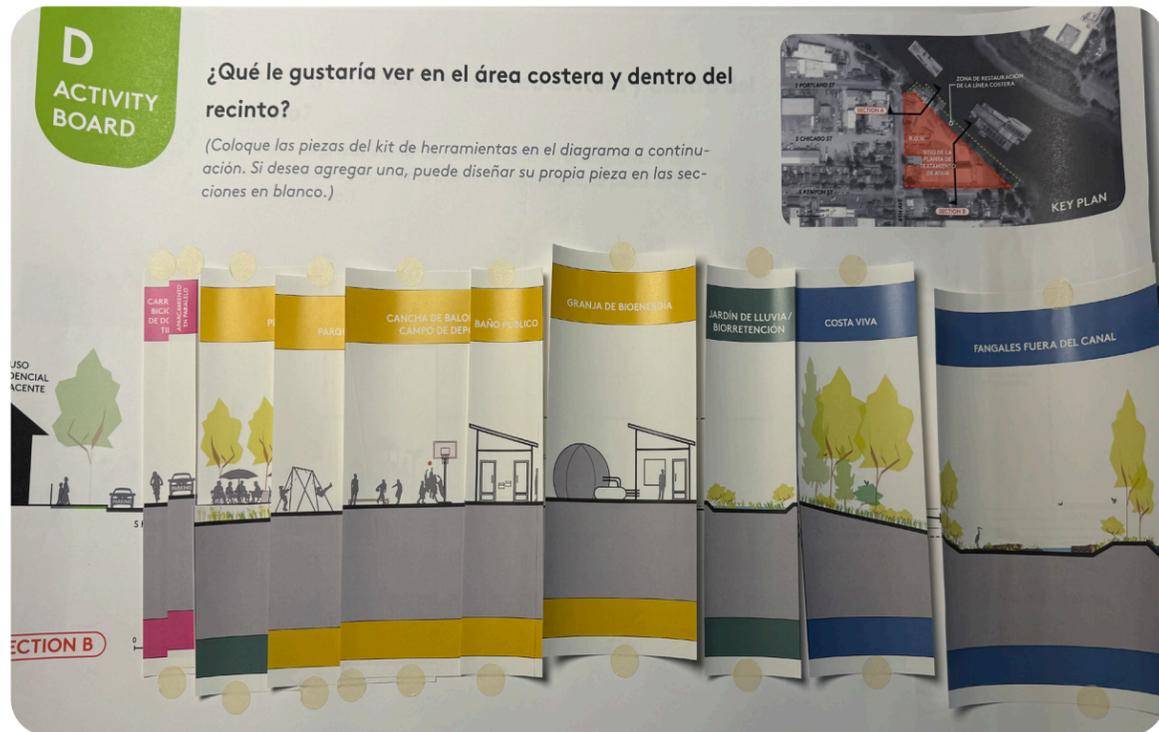
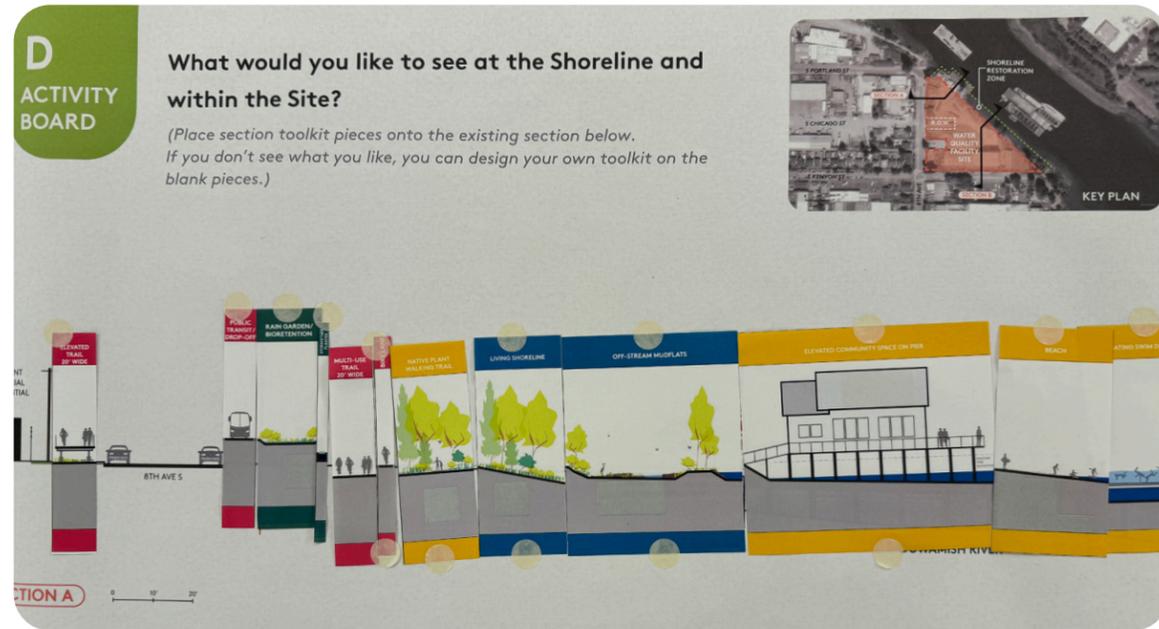
C ACTIVITY BOARD

What community benefit(s) would you like to see at the Site?
(Put a sticker next to the benefit. You can vote for more than one. You can also add your own thoughts below with a post-it note.)

(LEFT) The majority of youth participants responded positively to the restored natural shoreline, incorporating tidal mudflats and vegetated edges. They also expressed a strong preference for access to the river and unobstructed views, favoring design options such as piers or platforms.

(RIGHT) The most favored community benefits among the youth include **Public Open Space, a Multi-use Path or Riverwalk, and Trees/ Green Infrastructure**. These preferences were followed closely by interest in Access to Employment and Small Business Opportunities.

What the students said:



(TOP) Some youth participants designed the site to include a community space with river access and views, buffered by a nature trail and mudflats that provide separation from the streets.

(BOTTOM) Others preferred a more naturalized shoreline approach, incorporating a bio-energy farm adjacent to playgrounds and recreational areas, with programs having closer and more direct access from the street.

DVYC Youth

"Being out on the water on the barge would be exciting."

A floating swimming pool or a ferry stop would be expensive!

A floating swimming pool or a ferry stop would bring more people here!

DVSA Youth

DVSA Youth

Workshop 2 Key Takeaways

From DVSA group

- **Shoreline Restoration:** Youth participants expressed a strong preference for naturalized shoreline restoration, emphasizing the importance of mudflats, wetlands, and green spaces that support wildlife habitats and reduce contamination. There was little to no support for sea walls or hard edges.
- **Programs and Amenities:** Recreational spaces were a priority, with youth highlighting the need for amenities such as playgrounds, basketball courts, picnic areas, and flexible plazas. They noted a lack of such facilities in existing green spaces and hope to see these included in future site plans.
- **River Access:** Small group discussions revealed concerns about river pollution, leading many youth to avoid options involving direct access to the water, such as beaches or kayak launches. Instead, they expressed a preference for opportunities to enjoy views of the river without direct contact.

From DVYC group

- **Shoreline Restoration:** Strong preference for mudflats as the primary strategy due to wildlife habitat, contamination reduction, and boardwalk experiences. The trade off with usable space was confirmed.
- **Program and Amenities:** Buildings designed for community gathering and business incubation; transit uses at the street level, rain gardens and boardwalks, and tree canopy throughout. There was a spirited conversation about whether a floating swimming pool or a ferry stop would be too expensive or if it would be an important attraction.
- **River Access:** Boardwalks and overlooks, with other areas seen as more suitable for kayak or canoe launching.

Workshop 3

Site Connectivity & WQF Options

The third workshop began with an overview of the Unity Electric Site, showcasing an adjacent waterfront space that underwent community engagement to develop a range of re-imagined options, and its connection to the WQF site. Youth participants then took part in a hands-on exercise to examine the site's existing and proposed connectivity, including bus and bike routes, trail linkages, and planned greenway improvements. They were then introduced to 3 layout options for the Water Quality Facility (WQF) and developed cross-sections for each; considering different functionality, environmental impact, and potential community benefits. These activities helped participants gain a deeper understanding of the site's possibilities and constraints, and assess how different WQF layouts would integrate with the surrounding community benefits.



Agenda:

Info Session: Unity Electric Site Program

Activity 1: Site Connectivity & Street Typologies

Info Session: Water Quality Facility Siting Options

Activity 2: Sections for different WQF Options

Activity 3: Safety Barrier Expressions

What the students said:

INFRAESTRUCTURAS PARA BICICLETAS

Pensemos en Ciclismo...

- ¿Vas en bicicleta a menudo en South Park?
NO
- Si es así, ¿crees que es segura y agradable?
Yo pienso no porque hay muchos coches y mucho tráfico.
- ¿Qué ruta o rutas podrías tomar hacia el futuro WQF?
Yo pienso neighborhood greenways y painted bike lanes.

TRANSPORTE PÚBLICO Y DISTANCIA A PIE

Pensemos en Tránsito y caminar...

- ¿Utilizas el transporte público por South Park? ¿Crees que hay suficientes autobuses u otras formas de transporte público?
Sí uso el transporte público y me ha dado cuenta de que en muchas ocasiones se retrasa.
- ¿Crees que hay suficientes autobuses u otras formas de transporte público?
Creo que la razón por la que se retrasan es que no hay suficientes.
- ¿Es fácil llegar al sitio del WQF usando transporte público?
No sabría con exactitud pero la vía es que sí.
- ¿Qué otros medios de transporte (además del coche) podrías acceder al sitio?
Con bicicletas.

LA RUTA 40 ESTÁ ENTRE LAS 20 RUTAS MÁS CONCURRIDAS DE SEATTLE

TIPOLOGÍA DE CALLES

Pensemos en tipo de calle...

- ¿En qué se diferencian las calles industriales de las calles de barrio?
Las calles industriales no son accesibles. No hay banquetas ni puntos de autobús como en el barrio.
- ¿Cómo pueden las calles industriales alrededor del sitio del WQF ser más amigables para los peatones y ciclistas?
Añadiendo banquetas amplias y cómodas.
- ¿Cuáles son algunos usos creativos de la "zona flexible y de paisaje"?

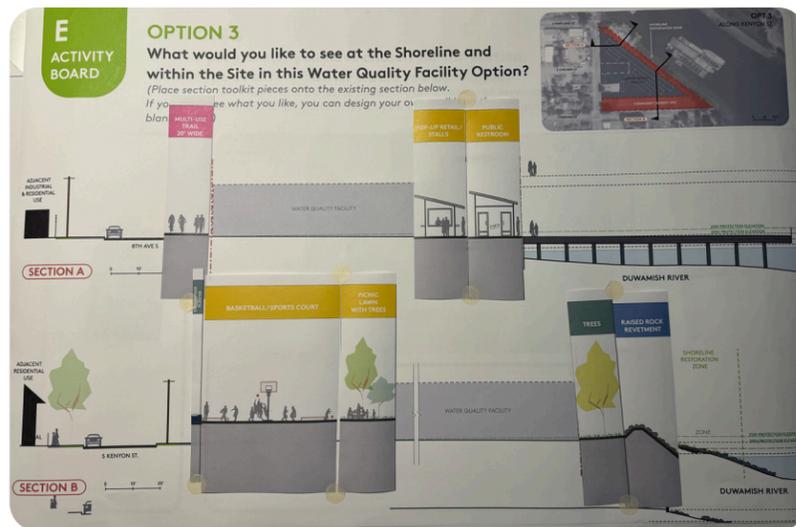
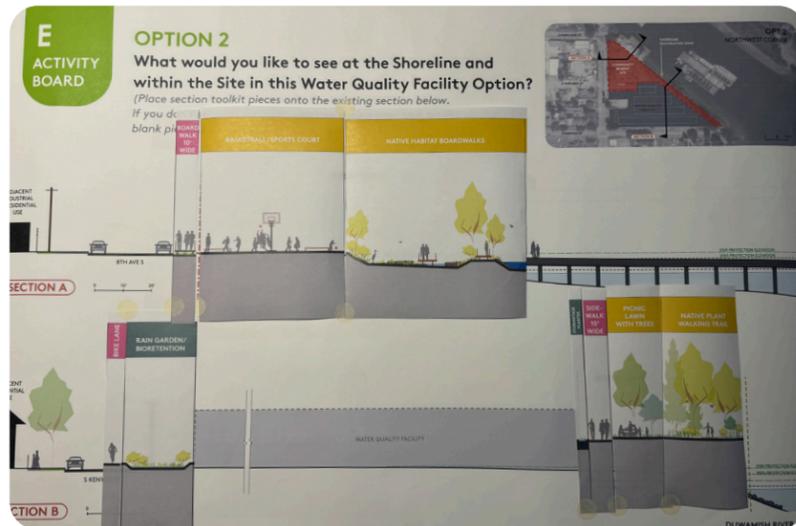
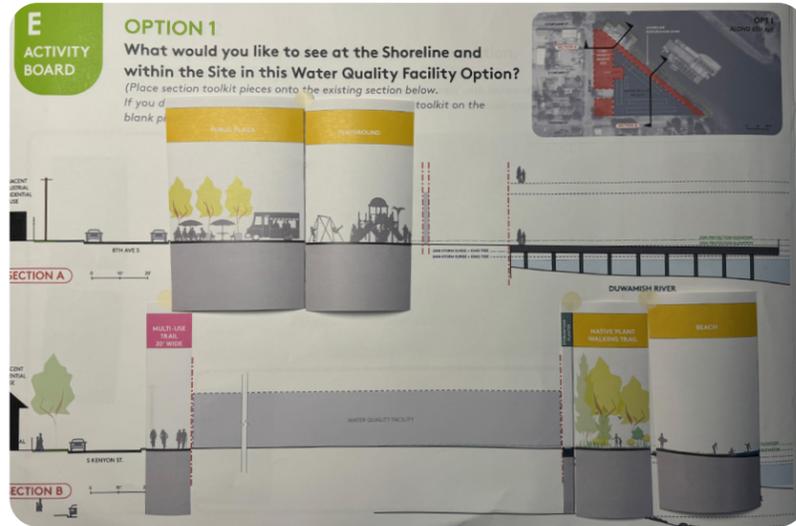
Hacer estas calles más accesibles para el vecindario.

porque son amigables para los coches pero originales de aquí como pajaros.

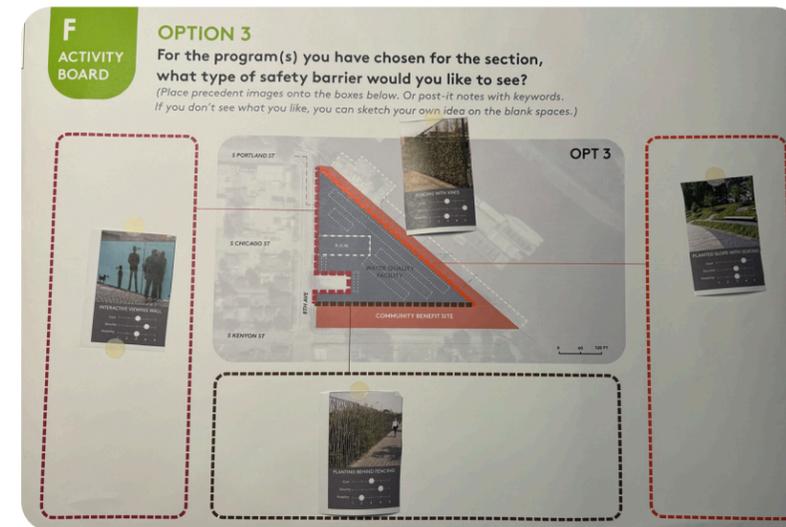
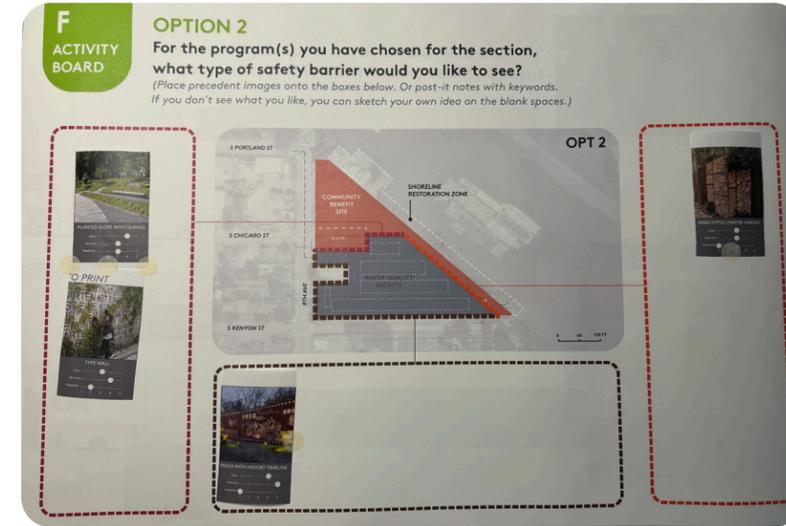
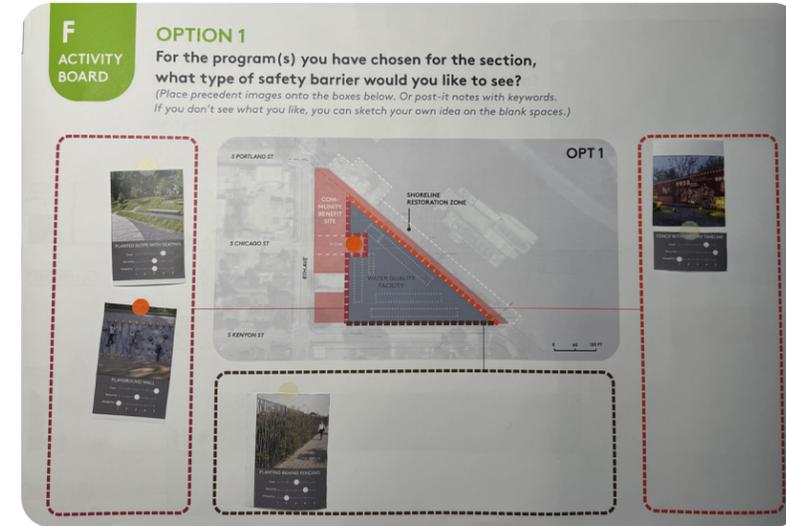
TIPO DE CALLE	ANCHO DE CALLE (ft)	LÍMITE DE VELOCIDAD (mph)
Carretera	60	35
Acceso Industrial	40	25
Acceso Industrial Secundario	30	20
Pueblo Urbano Principal	20	15
Pueblo Urbano Secundario	15	10
Pueblo Urbano Tercerario	10	5

Provided with maps that illustrated connectivity, transit routes, and street types, youth participants shared their experiences in the South Park neighborhood and provided input on how they envision accessing the site in the future.

What the students said:



Across the three WQF siting options, youth participants consistently placed **recreational programs closer to the streets** while reserving a more **naturalized experience along the water**. In particular, Option 2, which features a larger continuous community benefit space, inspired a design that struck a balance between natural habitat restoration and open space for community use.



Youth participants expressed interest in incorporating an **educational or historical timeline on the required safety barrier** at the WQF, and a green, **planted buffer with seating**: that is both functional and occupiable.



"The neighborhood greenway on Kenyon would be a good place for a food truck plaza and community gardens."

DVYC Youth

"I think it's important to have a quick route to take to the WQF site, but one that is covered and safe."

DVSA Youth

Workshop 3 Key Takeaways

From DVSA group

- **On Connectivity:** The majority of youth participants expressed a desire to bike and walk to the site in the future. However, the current industrial layout and inadequate sidewalk connections make these options challenging and unsafe. Their feedback highlights the importance of adding safe, protected bike lanes that connects the WQF site to surrounding neighborhoods. Addressing safety concerns and providing reliable biking options could encourage more youth to consider biking as a viable mode of transportation.
- **On Street Friendliness & Sidewalk:** Many youth participants noted that industrial streets lack sidewalks, which creates challenges for pedestrian access and safety. Suggestions included adding sidewalks, bike lanes, and reducing car dominance. Some youth emphasized the need for signage and reducing car lanes to create safer spaces for pedestrians and bikers.
- **On Program:** Amongst the sections that the youth developed, there is a consistent emphasis on a naturalized/green experience that features habitat restoration at the shoreline, and active community space like playground and floating swimming pool.

From DVYC group

- **Bus Stops and Walkable Streets:** These were consistently highlighted, especially in conjunction with rain gardens along the street.
- **Active Play:** Active play was included in all the team's ideas, with activities such as a basketball court, swings, and slides. In discussions about similar play amenities at Waterway Park, participants expressed a need for more active play space.
- **Community Buildings:** All three teams included a community building in their section. Some envisioned it as a community gathering space, others as a site for business incubation or retail, and another as a bio-digester.
- **Path Experiences:** A series of path types offering different experiences was also a common theme.
- **Site Configurations:** In discussions about site configurations, Option 2 was preferred, and Option 3 was also considered desirable due to the direct access to the water and the potential to expand the impact of activity along the neighborhood greenway into the site. Participants noted that walking along 8th Avenue in Option 1 was not comfortable, and there was less interest in this open space option.

Workshop 4 Site Concept

The fourth and final workshop brought together the knowledge and ideas participants developed in previous sessions. It began with a brief information session featuring examples from other South Park open space projects, such as the Unity Electric Site and South Park Community Center Redevelopment, to inspire and provide context for their designs for the WQF site. Participants then engaged in an hour-long group activity, working in teams of 3-4 to create site design diagrams. Using their preferred WQF layout options, they integrated key themes like connectivity, shoreline restoration, and community benefits into their site concepts. The workshop concluded with group presentations, where participants shared their stories and designs, showcasing a cohesive vision for the site while reflecting on their learning from the series.



Agenda:

Info Session: Examples from other South Park Projects

Activity 1: Developing Site Design Diagrams

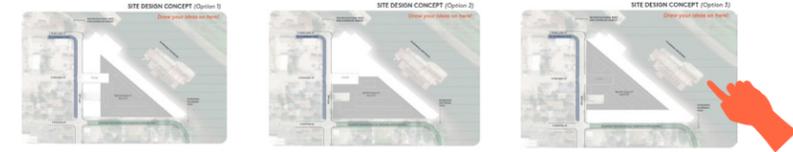
Activity 2: Presentation of Story & Concepts !

Develop Site Design Diagrams GUIDELINES

STEP 1:

Pick Your Preferred WQF Option

Discuss amongst yourself, and pick the most-preferred Water Quality Facility Siting Option (from the 3 options).



STEP 2:

Draw the Shoreline

Use **BLUE THICK PEN** to draw where you would like the shoreline to be.

You can use the following symbol to indicate different shoreline typology (those you learnt in Workshop #2):



STEP 3:

Draw the Riverwalk Access

Use **GREEN THICK PEN** to draw where you would like the Riverwalk path to be, and where you would like it to connect to. Will it connect to neighboring parks? Will it connect to sidewalk or bike trails?



STEP 4:

Place/Draw the Program Bubbles

Place the **ORANGE CUT-OUTS** onto the plan.

OR Use **ORGANGE/YELLOW PEN** to draw your own unique program bubbles.

How would they be located on site? How big are they?



e.g. Sports Court, Floating Sauna, Community garden, Public Plaza, Pop-up Stalls, Playground, etc.

Draw the Natural Habitat/Green Infrastructure

Use **LIGHT GREEN PEN** to draw out where you would like green natural habitat/ green infrastructure to be.

Follow the scale in the drawing reference. Will there be a lot of green?

Are they buffering between programs, or a destination themselves?



e.g. Marshes, Bioretention Planter, Street Trees, Native Woodland Habitat, Event Lawn, Pollinator Garden, etc.

STEP 5:

Draw the Pedestrian & Bike Paths

Use **THICK RED PEN** to draw out where you would like pedestrian and bikers to get around the site.



STEP 6:

Pick Precedent images

From the Precedent images sheets, cut out images that you would like to see, or images that help explain your design concept. Paste them onto the board.

A set of guidelines was provided to the youth to help them develop their own site concepts.



What the DVYC students came up with:

G ACTIVITY BOARD

SITE DESIGN CONCEPT

For the Duwamish

Draw your ideas on here!

Stick any relevant precedent photos that can help explain your concept here:

CHECK ANY OF THE FEATURE YOUR DESIGN CONCEPT ACHIEVED:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STORMWATER MANAGEMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROVIDE COMMUNITY SPACE	<input type="checkbox"/> PROVIDE SPACE FOR ART EXPRESSION	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HABITAT RESTORATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INCREASE PUBLIC OPEN SPACE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MITIGATE SEA LEVEL RISE/FLOODING IMPACT	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENHANCE PEDESTRIAN EXPERIENCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESS TO THE DUWAMISH RIVER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INCREASE JOB/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENHANCE BIKING EXPERIENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROVIDE RECREATIONAL SPACE	<input type="checkbox"/>

"For the Duwamish"

This concept incorporates a sea wall to maximize community benefit space, a riverwalk trail with rain gardens and bioretention planters, floating wetlands with viewing platforms by the river, and a flexible plaza featuring picnic tables and food trucks for community events.

G ACTIVITY BOARD

SITE DESIGN CONCEPT

Go walk/eco walk

Draw your ideas on here!

Stick any relevant precedent photos that can help explain your concept here:

CHECK ANY OF THE FEATURE YOUR DESIGN CONCEPT ACHIEVED:

<input type="checkbox"/> STORMWATER MANAGEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PROVIDE COMMUNITY SPACE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROVIDE SPACE FOR ART EXPRESSION	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Water wall</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> HABITAT RESTORATION	<input type="checkbox"/> INCREASE PUBLIC OPEN SPACE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MITIGATE SEA LEVEL RISE/FLOODING IMPACT	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> ENHANCE PEDESTRIAN EXPERIENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESS TO THE DUWAMISH RIVER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INCREASE JOB/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Walkway</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> ENHANCE BIKING EXPERIENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROVIDE RECREATIONAL SPACE	<input type="checkbox"/>

"Go walk/Eco Walk"

This concept features a large mudflat and habitat restoration area along the shoreline, complemented by a boardwalk river trail and an educational/history trail with interpretive learning panels on the WQF safety barrier. The design also integrates community gardens and a food storage area along the street edge, a potential integration with the proposed greenway improvement on Kenyon Street.

G ACTIVITY BOARD

SITE DESIGN CONCEPT

Awesome Awesome Park

Draw your ideas on here!

Stick any relevant precedent photos that can help explain your concept here:

CHECK ANY OF THE FEATURE YOUR DESIGN CONCEPT ACHIEVED:

<input type="checkbox"/> STORMWATER MANAGEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PROVIDE COMMUNITY SPACE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROVIDE SPACE FOR ART EXPRESSION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Fishing Access</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> HABITAT RESTORATION	<input type="checkbox"/> INCREASE PUBLIC OPEN SPACE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MITIGATE SEA LEVEL RISE/FLOODING IMPACT	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> ENHANCE PEDESTRIAN EXPERIENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESS TO THE DUWAMISH RIVER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INCREASE JOB/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> ENHANCE BIKING EXPERIENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROVIDE RECREATIONAL SPACE	<input type="checkbox"/>

"Awesome Awesome Park"

This concept highlights a naturalized shoreline with marshes and a looping multi-use trail that circles the entire community benefit site. The trail weaves through a wooded, naturalized area and leads to an active nature playground, complemented by community gardens, picnic areas, and a flexible plaza designed to host farmers markets and other community events.



What the DVSA students came up with:



"Green Project"

This concept envisions an integrated shoreline design that combines naturalized marshes & habitats, with seawalls, sea steps, and an overwater structure. A bike trail seamlessly connects to the Duwamish Trail, looping around playgrounds, sports courts, and into the riverwalk. The proposal also includes a food forest, serving as a green buffer and welcoming entrance to



"Un Rio Para Todos" translates to: "River for Everyone"

This concept proposes an integrated shoreline that transitions from marshes to a revetment shoreline in the north, showcasing diverse natural habitats along the riverfront. The riverwalk winds through a naturalized edge, leading to the Kenyon Street section, where walking trails encircle a large rain garden, and a protected bike lane runs along the street edge.



"Future Duwamish"

This plan envisions replacing the barge with a naturalized marsh in the north, and seawall with viewing platforms along the riverwalk. Surrounding a bio-energy farm, the design includes community gardens, picnic areas, and a farmers market zone at the street front. A bike trail loops around the WQF, providing connectivity and recreation opportunities around the infrastructure.

"I'd love to be able to bike to & from, and around the whole site! But I can't afford a bike, and the city bike rentals are too expensive."

DVSA Youth

"It would be nice if there's a space for food trucks, and we can sit on a picnic area next to it to enjoy."

DVYC Youth

Workshop 4 Key Takeaways

From DVSA group

- **On Shoreline Strategy:** All three groups in DVSA proposed a hybrid shoreline approach, blending naturalized habitat restoration areas with harder edges and water piers to enhance both access to and views of the river. It balances ecological restoration with opportunities for community engagement and interaction with the waterfront.
- **On WQF Options:** The majority of youth favored Option 1, which places the largest community benefit site in the northern parcel. However, one group selected Option 2, which positions a portion of the community benefit site along Kenyon Street, connecting to the proposed greenway improvement.
- **On Connectivity:** Establishing bike connections to the existing Duwamish Trail or the greenway improvement on Kenyon Street were identified as important for improving site access and connectivity.
- **On Program:** Community gardens, food forests, recreational courts, and picnic areas emerged as highly favored programs. Equally important are viewing platforms and overwater structures that offer opportunities to access and enjoy the riverfront.

From DVYC group

- **On Shoreline Strategy:** The three groups proposed distinct approaches to the shoreline, ranging from sea walls and floating wetlands to naturalized marshes and mudflats. Among these, floating wetlands or marshes emerged as the most popular and recurring feature.
- **On WQF Options:** The majority of youth favored Option 1 with the largest community benefit site in the northern parcel. Only one group selected Option 2.
- **On Safety Barrier:** One group proposed an educational and historical trail featuring interpretive signs along the WQF safety barrier, offering a creative way to engage the community while maintaining the site's functional requirements.
- **On Connectivity:** All concepts emphasize the importance of strong connections to the broader network, including the Duwamish Trail and Kenyon Street greenway improvements. Loop trail designs also enhance internal connectivity within the site.
- **On Program:** From flexible plazas with food trucks to community gardens, food storage areas, spaces for markets and playgrounds, all the youth's design prioritize creating vibrant, dynamic spaces that serve a range of community needs and activities.

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Graduation For DVYC Youths

The Duwamish Valley Youth Corps celebrated the culmination of their cohort with a vibrant graduation event on November 23rd, 2024, showcasing their learning journey and creativity. Over 150 community members, neighbors, and families gathered to support the youth. The youth delivered a concise 5-minute presentation, sharing insights and what they had learnt from the series of workshops, and unveiling their creative design proposals. After the presentations, the youth distributed a set of survey questions to engage the community and gather feedback on their concepts, as well as explore additional ideas for the site. The event was a resounding success, with widespread positive feedback and support. It underscores the significant role of youth-led initiatives in shaping the future of the Duwamish Valley.



DVYC Graduation WQF PRESENTATION OUTLINE

1 SELF INTRODUCTION:

Remember to start by introducing yourselves. e.g. If there is 3 presenters, take turn to introduce yourself. Decide amongst yourselves who wants to present which section.

Hi, my name is _____

2 INSPIRATION:

Recall from your first site visit, how did you feel when you visit the site? What did you find inspiring?

During the site visit, we find (write below) inspiring.

(OR) We felt (write below) when visited the existing site.

3 WHAT WE HAD LEARNT:

TIPS:

- History of South Park
- History of the Duwamish River
- Shoreline Typology & Habitat Restoration
- Sea Level Rise Risk & Mitigation
- Open Space in South Park
- Capital Projects in South Park
- Transit & Connectivity
- Street Typology

During the series of workshops, we had learnt about (write below).

We find (write below) particularly interesting and important, because (write below).

4 WHAT WE CAME UP WITH:

Pick from the work you had done in the workshops, and elaborate on at least 2-3 of them. Tell everyone your cool ideas!

TIPS:

- Shoreline Type
- Site Sections
- Safety Barrier Expressions
- Site Plan Diagrams & Connection
- Programs
- Community Benefit

These are some ideas we came up during the workshop:

5 WHAT WE HOPE TO SEE:

Imagine the future site, developed based on your ideas. How would you describe this vision in a few words?

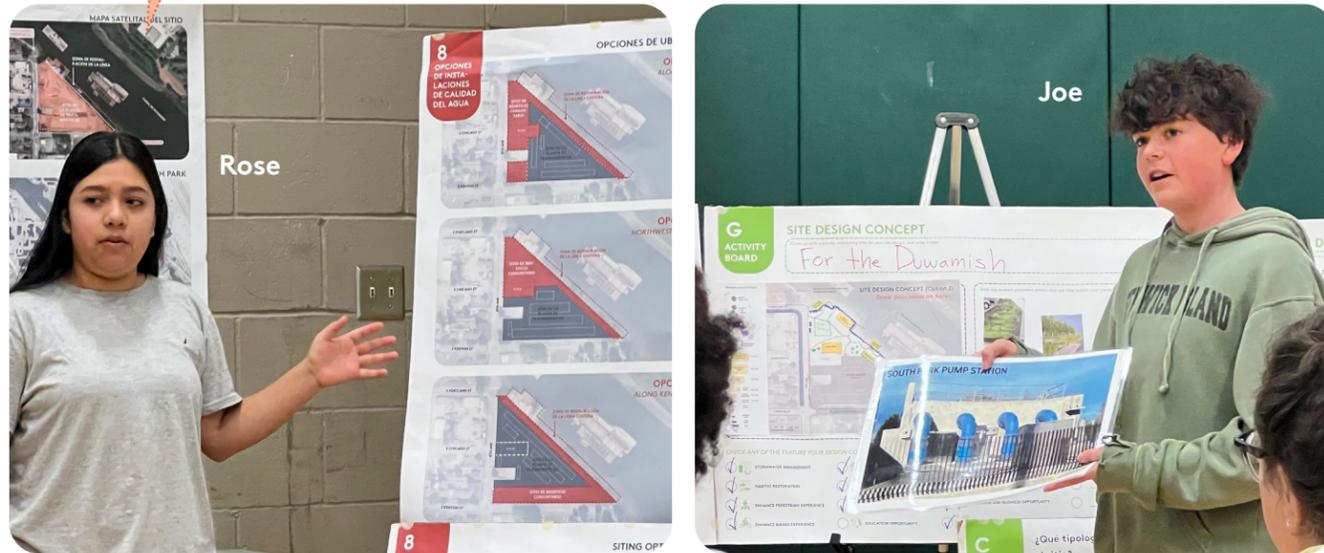
In the future, we would like to feel (write below) when we visit the site.

(OR) In the future, we would like to be able to (write below) at the site.

An outline was developed to help guide the youth to prepare for their 5-min presentation to the community at the graduation event.

"The city is building a Water Quality Facility to help clean the water from the Pump Station before it is disposed into the river. There will be space available for community benefit or a park. We have some design ideas for that.."

"Our group picked Option 2 of the WQF, and proposed to have a natural playground, community garden, a loop trail and farmers market on the site. I also learned what shoreline typologies are, a fancy term to describe shoreline types.."



"One thing I have learned from the workshops is the different types of shorelines we can have, such as soft shorelines like floating wetlands and more protective ones like sea walls. Some of the things we really want to see on the site are picnic areas, floating wetlands, boardwalks, and a trail that connects the neighborhood to the site.."

Community Survey Results:

At the end of their presentation, the youth distributed a survey with questions they had created themselves to gather the community's feedback and explore additional ideas for the site.

What site concept are you most excited about?

- **Parks and Green Spaces as Top Choices:** Several participants showed strong enthusiasm for parks, eco walks, and floating marshes, highlighting a desire for recreational and natural spaces.
- **Connection to the Duwamish River:** Frequent mentions of the Duwamish River reflect its significance to the community and their commitment to its restoration and enhancement.
- **Environmental Improvements:** Responses emphasized clean water, sediment management, and overall environmental health

What community benefit would you add to this site that we didn't already mention?

- **Environmental Focus:** Many responses included environmental improvements like green spaces, trash management, and air quality monitoring.
- **Recreational Additions:** Other suggestions included exercise equipment, picnic benches, and performance stages to enhance community engagement.
- **Community Involvement:** Some responses emphasized involving volunteers and corporations, reflecting a desire for shared responsibility in maintaining the site.
- **General Satisfaction:** A few respondents expressed contentment with current plans, suggesting the project aligns well with community expectations.

What are your preferred methods for staying engaged with the project's site planning process?

- **Strong Preference for Community Meetings:** Many participants favored in-person community meetings, valuing face-to-face interaction for staying engaged.
- **Interest in Online Surveys:** Online surveys were also popular, reflecting a need for accessible and flexible engagement options.
- **Desire for Transparency updates:** Suggestions like emails and widely available updates highlight the importance of transparency and regular project information/progress.
- **Event Engagement:** Community events were mentioned as a way to foster informal and social participation in the planning process.

Final Note

What We Heard

Students in both groups demonstrated a strong understanding of environmental justice issues in the Duwamish Valley and the relationship to new infrastructure investments that can benefit the community. There were lively discussions about what was realistic versus aspirational for the future. The groups considered historic and existing conditions, as well as future plans for amenities and activities in the surrounding neighborhood.



Hybrid Shoreline Strategies:

- Views of the river and being next to the river is highly valued.
- A hybrid approach to the shoreline that combines naturalized habitat restoration (mud flats, marshes, floating wetlands) with some harder edges like water piers is widely preferred. This strategy balances ecological restoration with opportunities for community engagement and access to the riverfront.



Neighborhood Connectivity:

- Strong emphasis on improving connections to the existing Duwamish Trail and Kenyon Street greenway improvement, including safe and protected bike lanes, pedestrian-friendly sidewalks, to make the site accessible for walking and biking.
- Integration with the broader transportation and trail network is critical to enhance the site's accessibility



Programs and Amenities:

- Youth noted a need for additional play and nature space, and prioritize a mix of recreational spaces such as community gardens, food forests, picnic areas, playgrounds, sports courts, and flexible plazas. These spaces should foster vibrant community interactions and diverse activities.
- Additional programming, such as floating swimming pools, ferry stops and interpretive/educational elements were amenities that would support the residents and attract more people to South Park.
- Community buildings for neighborhood gatherings, business incubation, retail, and a bio-digester were identified during the section exercises in Workshops 2 and 3 and were priorities in those discussions.



Safety and Street Friendliness:

- Addressing safety concerns for pedestrians and cyclists is important. Key measures include adding sidewalks, adding protected or buffered bike lanes, and incorporating street trees or roadside green infrastructure to create a safer, more inviting, and enjoyable pedestrian experience.



Environmental Restoration/ Protection:

- Strong preference for restoring natural shoreline habitats, including wetlands, mudflats, and green spaces to support wildlife and reduce contamination.
- In favor of options that allow enjoyment of the riverfront without compromising its ecological health.



Educational Opportunities:

- Consider incorporating educational and interpretive features, such as art, signs or displays that provide historical information about the site, or educational insights about the water quality facility, fostering deeper community connections and understanding.

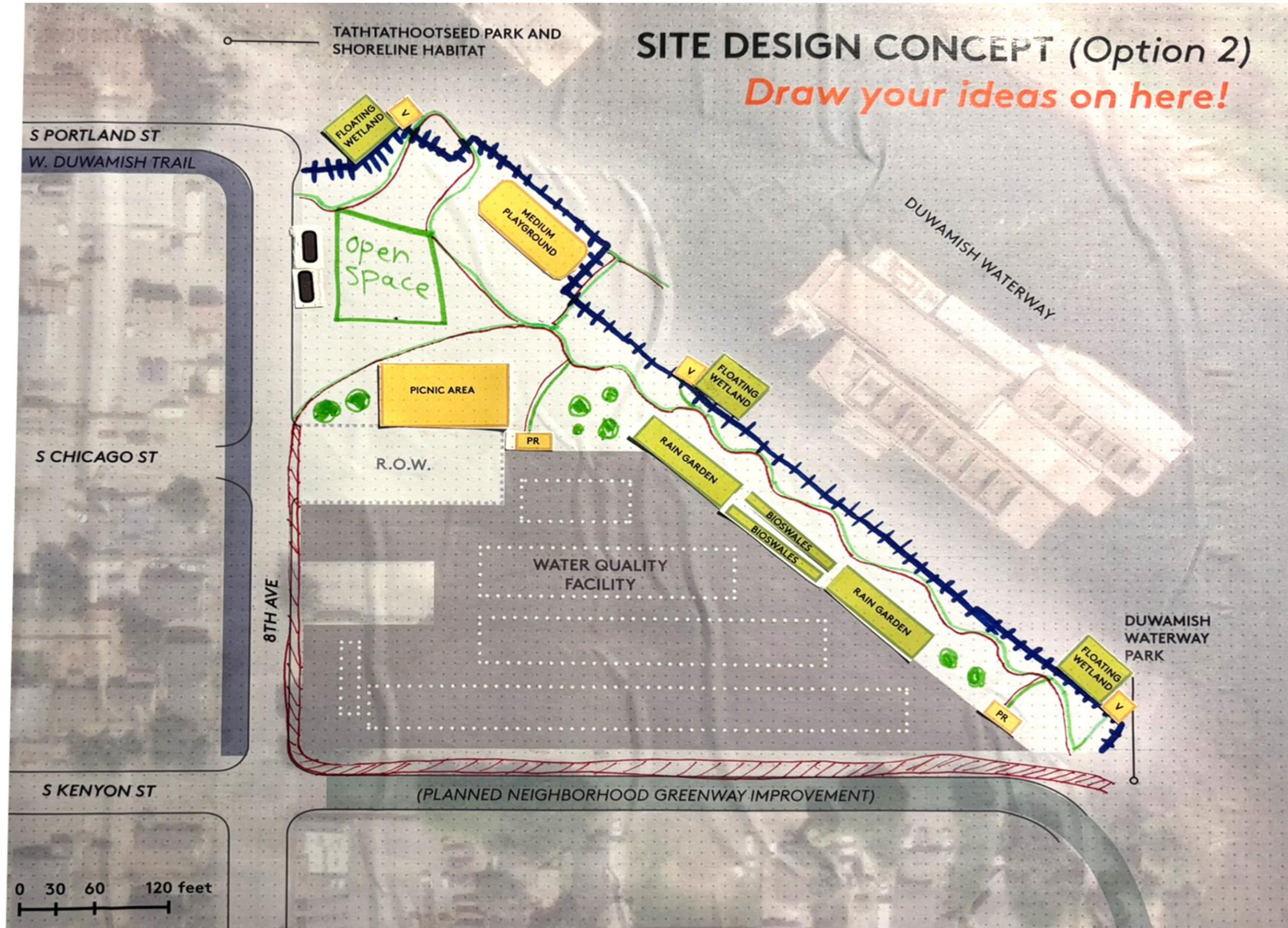


Creative Security Barriers for WQF:

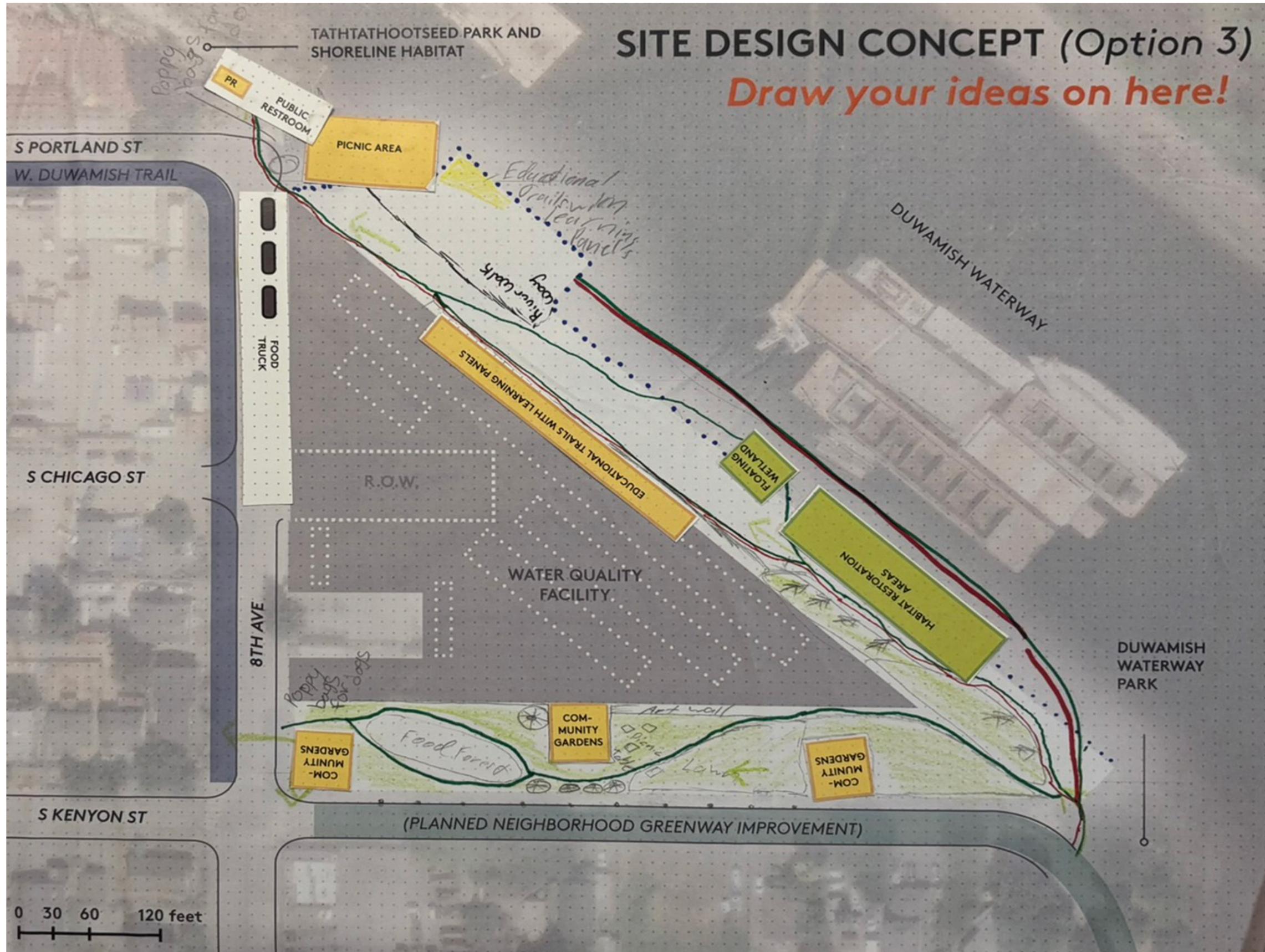
- Creative solutions like multi-functional barriers (e.g., safety barriers with interpretive designs, or with curated viewing windows towards the facility) that engage and educate while meeting functional requirements for the Water Quality Facility were well-received.

Appendix

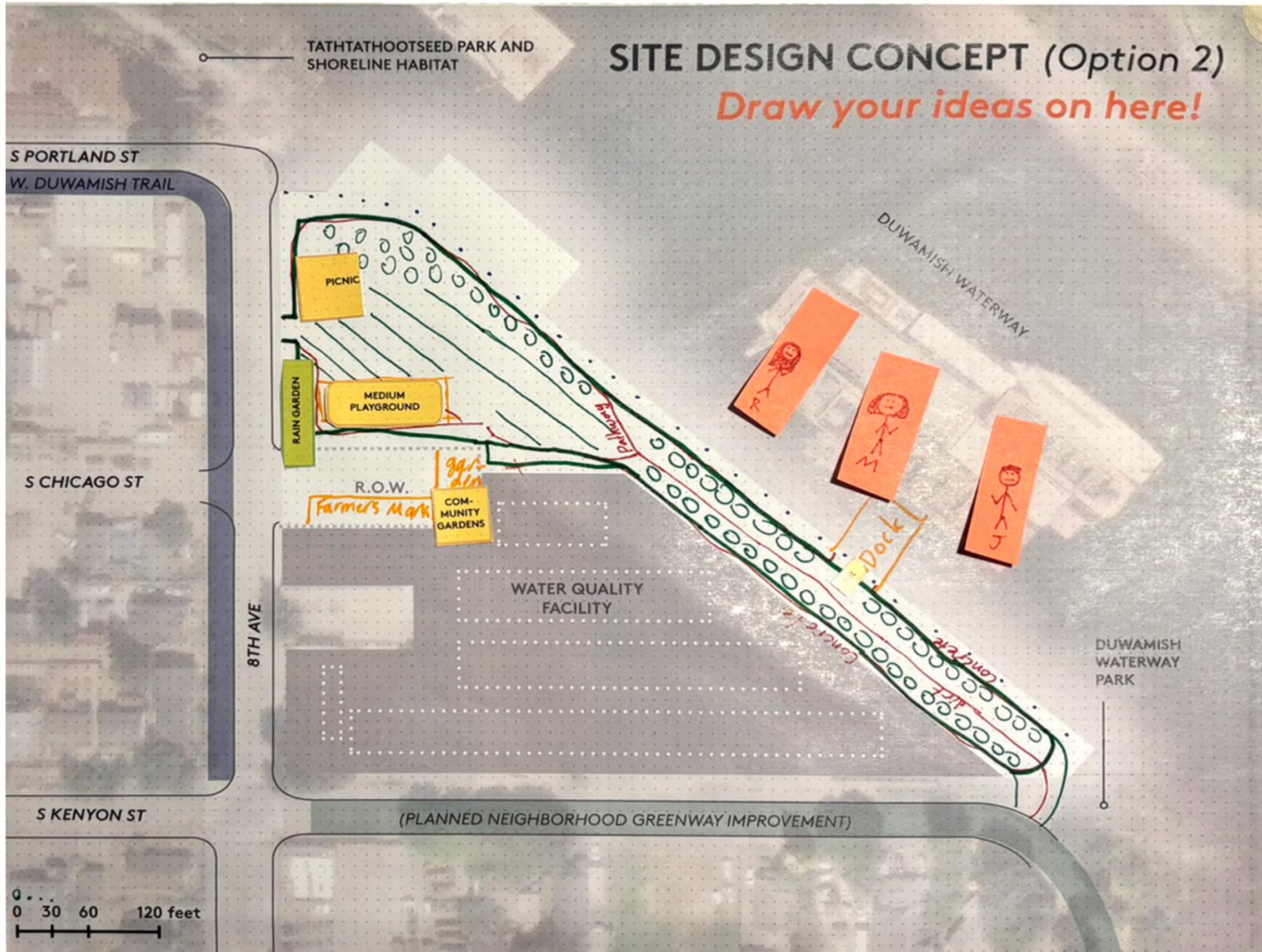
DVYC Group Concept 1 : For the Duwamish



DVYC Group Concept 2 : Go walk/ Eco Walk



DVYC Group Concept 3 : Awesome Awesome Park



DVSA Group Concept 1 : Green Project



DVYC Group Concept 2 : *Un Rio Para Todos (River for Everyone)*



DVSA Group Concept 3 : *Future Duwamish*



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