

Status of West Seattle Trails Project

Overview

Phase I of the project has been is near the conclusion of the Fauntleroy section. Currently the first batch of wayfinding signs are sited with SDOT approval, kiosks have been sited, Paul Sorey is beginning to fabricate the kiosks, and community members are actively developing the information. This phase of the project is showing real products and will finish nicely. However the following two phases need to move forward with more expediency to complete the grant.

The Department of Neighborhoods (DON) Large Project Fund grant has two sets of deliverables: 10 kiosks and approximately 60 wayfinding signs. These deliverables are being developed in three phases based on the location of kiosks. Wayfinding signs are clumped to be approximately 20 signs per phase. Below is the list of kiosks and the three phases:

Phase I: North end of Lincoln Park (Fauntleroy)
 Fauntleroy Ferry Terminal (Fauntleroy) (deferred due to WSDOT/SDOT work)
 Endolyne (Fauntleroy)

Phase II: Statue of Liberty plaza area (Alki)
 Seacrest Park (Alki)
 Me-Kwa-Mooks Park (Alki)
 Admiral Junction area (Admiral)
 Belvedere Park (Admiral)

Phase III: Alaska Junction area (Alaska Junction)
 Morgan Junction Park (Morgan)

Additionally, SDOT has approached Feet First and Paul Sorey to create an additional kiosk as part of phase I at the location of Orchard Park Ravine. Paul Sorey will fabricate and install an additional kiosk funded solely through SDOT, and Feet First will develop the map and information panels (with some compensation from SDOT). Communication will be with Jane Rebelowski (SDOT) and she will liaise with the community stakeholders.

Status of Phase I

Currently Phase I is in its later stage. 15 wayfinding signs have been sited and confirmed by SDOT (those listed in "090513 – Fauntleroy Sign Siting Round 1.pdf"). Locations for the three kiosks have been chosen and community members are beginning to draft content. We still need to secure building permits and find kiosk sponsors for each kiosk.

Next Steps

To complete Phase II and Phase III there are several steps that must be completed. These are grouped into two sections: wayfinding signs and kiosks.

Wayfinding Signs

Each Phase needs to install an area-wide network of wayfinding signs directing walkers to destinations, along trails, and to other neighborhoods. Each phase has approximately 20 signs with 4 blades each available (funding was for the equivalent of 60 posts and 240 blades). The wayfinding signage must also fit together between the phases so that it becomes one network. In Phase I, we spent a good deal of time on wayfinding sign siting. I believe this can be streamlined substantially without any loss of quality or active participation. Below is a rough workplan to develop the signs.

- 1) Through community input (i.e. meeting, focus group, discussions at fairs, etc.) develop a list of major destinations in the phase area. These should be key places to walk to, important shortcuts that are not easy to find, and main trails that pass through the area. This list may be large at first, but will need to be narrowed to 20-40 places per phase. [Accomplished for Alki and Admiral kiosks.](#)
- 2) Determine the unique wayfinding distance for each destination. This is the distance that the destination needs to be called by name and not by a region. For example a neighborhood (e.g. Morgan Junction) may have a 1-2 mile walkshed and people will know destinations exist in that neighborhood. A small park may have a .25 mile walkshed and people will need navigation once they reach the larger neighborhood. [Accomplished for Alki and Admiral kiosks](#)
- 3) Determine the regional trails that pass through the area and can function as corridors for the wayfinding. These allow signage of the trail to double as wayfinding to smaller destinations – conserves signs. [Accomplished for Alki and Admiral kiosks](#)
- 4) Based on the needed wayfinding distance, draft the network with signs spreading out from the destination to the needed distance. Signs should be approximately every .25 miles, or at a confusing junction. [Accomplished for Alki and Admiral kiosks](#)
- 5) Present draft wayfinding plan to community members for comments and adjustments. [Accomplished for Alki and Admiral kiosks](#)
- 6) Go on walk with community members to scout potential locations to place the wayfinding sign. This is a good time to check if the signs are thorough and function for people walking to from various locations in the neighborhood. Wayfinding signs are able to replace street name signs. SDOT will use the wayfinding red pole, place the street names on top (with new signs), and the wayfinding signs below. This reduces the sign clutter on the streets. [Accomplished for Alki and Admiral kiosks](#)
- 7) Distribute fliers throughout the area, especially at intersections where signs are being installed, so community members are aware of the project.
- 8) Select if icons should be on signs (e.g. for staircase) and the distance from the sign to the destination (see Fauntleroy example).
- 9) Meet with SDOT (Virginia Coffman) to site exact locations for signs so SDOT can prepare work order.

Kiosks

Each kiosk is a substantial product for the community to develop. The kiosks are artistically designed brushed steel structures holding a piece of artwork and a double-sided panel with wayfinding and community information. We have a contract with Paul Sorey to fabricate and install the kiosks. Feet First is to assist the community in developing the panel content, siting the kiosks, securing the building permits, and providing conceptual information to Paul for the artwork. Below is a rough workplan for developing the kiosks.

- 1) Initiate the conversation about the kiosks with the appropriate group of community members. This could include community councils, arts groups, community organizations, parks groups, schools, and businesses. [Accomplished for Alki and Admiral kiosks](#)
- 2) Determine the physical location of the kiosk based on the approximate locations shown on the West Seattle Trails Map. [Accomplished for Alki and Admiral kiosks](#)
- 3) With community members, plan the content of the information panel. This can include graphics and text to develop a sense of place, increase people's local knowledge, and encourage people to explore the surrounding area. In Fauntleroy, the information side will include stories on the history of the kiosk's area, identify a few native plants that people may find in the area, describe a few places of interest surrounding the site, and provide some community resource information. [Accomplished for Alki and Admiral kiosks](#)
- 4) Delegate who will develop what sections of content. Feet First has an agreement with Earthcorps for them to develop information on plants in Fauntleroy. We can probably extend that to the other kiosks as well.
- 5) Design the map panel. Feet First or a graphics volunteer is responsible for this. Each one of these panels are very similar, but will take some adjustments to make site specific.

- 6) Design the information panel. Gather the content from the individual creators and finalize the layout.
- 7) Apply for the building permit through SDOT. This requires a site plan. The permit can take several weeks to be approved, and once approved it has around 30 days to be completed. Check with Paul Sorey before hand to make sure the kiosks can be installed within that window.
- 8) Show the involved community members the final designs for the map and information panels for their approval. After this is done, give the files to Paul Sorey so he can purchase the panels.
- 9) Communicate with Paul about final installation of the kiosks.

To continue to make gains on this project we need to close Phase I and begin work on Phase II and III. Additionally, there are several individual tasks that can be isolated and delegated. These are listed below. Throughout the project, we have been working to delegate tasks to volunteers and community members as much as possible. Some require Feet First's oversight or lead; others are able to be taken up primarily by community members. We should work to secure volunteers who can take on individual tasks to see them through to fruition.

Organizing and Outreach *Accomplished for Fautleroy, Alki, Admiral, and the two Junction kiosks*

- Presentations at meetings
- Attend fairs and events
- Flier areas receiving kiosks and sign posts

Field Work

- wayfinding siting with community *Accomplished for Fautleroy, Alki and Admiral kiosks*
- wayfinding siting with SDOT
- kiosk siting *Accomplished for Fautleroy, Alki, and Admiral kiosks*
- determining wayfinding destinations and routes *Accomplished for Fautleroy, Alki and Admiral kiosks*

Project Administration

- DON status reports and invoicing
- ALBD final report
- Coordinate with Paul Sorey
- Complete building permits

Graphic Design

- cartographic design work on kiosk maps
- develop/coordinate text for kiosk information panel
- develop/coordinate graphic elements for kiosk information panel
- Panel layout