



## APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING

**Mike McGinn**  
Mayor

**Diane Sugimura**  
Director, DPD

**Marshall Foster**  
Planning Director, DPD

**Julie Bassuk**  
Chair

**Seth Geiser**

**Laurel Kunkler**

**Shannon Loew**

**Tom Nelson**

**Julie Parrett**

**Osama Quotah**

**Ellen Sollod**

**Debbie Harris**

**Valerie Kinast**  
Coordinator

**Tom Iurino**  
Senior Staff

**January 17, 2013**

Convened 8:30am  
Adjourned 4:30pm

### Projects Reviewed

Mapes Creek Restoration and 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave CSO  
Arena Street Vacation  
Elliott Bay Seawall

### Commissioners Present

Julie Parrett, Chair  
Seth Geiser  
Lolly Kunkler (excused from 9:00am-11:00am)  
Shannon Loew  
Tom Nelson  
Osama Quotah  
Ellen Sollod

### Commissioners Awaiting Confirmation Present

Martin Regge

### Commissioners Excused

Debbie Harris  
Julie Bassuk

### Staff Present

Valerie Kinast  
Tom Iurino



**Department of Planning  
and Development**  
700 5th Avenue, Suite 2000  
PO Box 34019  
Seattle, WA 98124-4019

**TEL** 206-615-1349  
**FAX** 206-233-7883



---

January 17, 2013

**Project:** **Mapes Creek Restoration and 52nd Ave CSO Project**

**Phase:** 90% Design

**Last Reviewed:** N/A

**Presenters:** Kathy Robertson, Seattle Public Utilities  
Aaron Luoma, HBB  
Cheryl Eastberg, Seattle Parks and Recreation

**Attendees:** Alan Lord, Brown and Caldwell  
Jason Huff, Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs  
Nathaniel Riedy, SvR Design  
Teresa Donahuse, SvR Design Company

**Time:** 9:00am-11:30am

---

## Recusal

Commissioner Kunkler recused herself.

## Summary of Project Presentation

Seattle Public Utilities, in partnership with Seattle Parks and Recreation, is designing and constructing the Mapes Creek Restoration and 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave CSO project in Rainier Beach in southeast Seattle. The project begins at 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave S. and Rainier Ave S. and runs along 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave S. to S. Henderson St., and along Henderson from 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave S to Seward Park Ave S, and then across Seward Ave Park S and into Beer Sheeva Park. The project consists of: moving the creek from a storm drain into a parallel, dedicated pipe; restoring 350 feet of the creek into an open, natural channel through Beer Sheva Park to Lake Washington; and restoring the right-of-way on 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave S. and S. Henderson St. including: a 10' asphalt path with a 2' gravel shoulder; landscaping with seasonal bulbs, grass lawn and maple and tupelo trees; and a restored concrete plaza and artwork in a new pattern. The project will create additional habitat for threatened juvenile chinook salmon and tie the walkway, residential neighborhood, and park together with trees and landscaping. The park will be regraded and the banks of the open channel will be planted with low vegetation, such as ferns and grasses, to make a clearer visual connection between the park and Lake Washington; there also will several deciduous and conifer trees planted to supplement the existing trees. A new art piece will be placed at the headwall where the water enters the daylighted channel. The 6' wide path into the park from Seward Park Ave. S. will feature locations where people can touch the stream and a new 10' wide cable-rail galvanized tread bridge, with an associated art piece, to cross the creek. The land near the shoreline will be regraded, and steps placed to allow people to reach the water. Construction will start late summer 2013 and end in the fall of 2014.

The commission's discussion centered on: the lack of details on many of the design drawings, especially in the park; the location of the fence along S. Henderson St.; the design concept for the touchpoints along the stream, how to delineate them, and what their materials should be; the importance of the bridge as a touchpoint or a special place; how to integrate the two projects further, especially across edges like Seward Park S.; how the artwork integrates into the park; and the placement and topics for the interpretive signage.

## **ACTION (by Loew)**

By a vote of 5-1, the Seattle Design Commission approved the 90% design of the Mapes Creek Restoration and 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave CSO project, with the condition that the team return for an administrative review of: the details of the bridge, including its role in placemaking and its artwork; a more detailed exploration and resolution of the touchpoints along the creek; more details on the interpretive signage; a detailed plan for the planting along S. Henderson St.; and a clear and detailed strategy for the planting and vegetation in the strip along the daylighted stream in Bear Sheva Park. The commission supported the team's work to move the fence and give pedestrians a wider berth on S. Henderson St. It also appreciated the use of the proposed planting materials such as camas. The commission had the following recommendations:

- Develop more detailed drawing in line with 90% design. The drawings shown, with their lack of details, do not represent 90% design.
- Better integrate the two projects and celebrate the linkage between them at S. Henderson St. and Seward Park Ave S. Make more bold the connection to the park through the design of the landscape and the bulb.
- Be mindful of how the two artworks come together. Better explain and show details of both of the artworks and how they fit in to the context of the project and how they tie in together.
- Ensure visitors to the ADA path have access to information, signage and the visitor experience that exist on the other paths.
- Consider the history of the creek and the use and waste of water as inspiration for further development of the touchpoints and the interpretive program.
- Develop a hierarchy and boundary areas for the park design; use that to inform the design of the bridge and the relationship of the artwork to it.

Commissioner Loew voted no because the materials presented for review were not at 90% design. Many of the details were not shown and were only in the designers' minds, and the challenges and solutions that arise with developing detailed plans were not explored nor addressed.

Commissioner Regge abstained because he is not yet a voting member.

---