



**MEETING NOTES
CENTRAL WATERFRONT
FULL COMMITTEE**

**MEETING #14 July 21, 2011
3:30 — 5:00 PM Room #4050, Seattle Municipal Tower**

Meeting Attendees

Committee Members & Advisors

- Charley Royer, Co-Chair
- Maggie Walker, Co-Chair
- Jan O'Connor
- Vlad Oustimovitch
- Patrick Gordon
- Gary Glant
- Donna Kostka
- Peter Hahn
- Ed Medeiros
- Ron Turner
- Heather Trim
- Brian Steinburg
- Craig Hanway
- David Frieboth
- Mark Reddington
- Joe McWilliams
- Rollin Fatland
- Todd Vogel
- Bob Donegan
- Bob Davidson
- Alex Kochen
- Tom Bancroft
- Erin Slaten

City Staff & Consultants

- Marshall Foster
- Nathan Torgelson
- Steve Pearce
- Jennifer Wieland
- David Graves
- Paul Elliott
- My Tam Nguyen
- Erin Taylor
- Ruri Yampolsky

Subcommittee Reports & Project Updates

- **Outreach Subcommittee Co-Chairs:**
 - The Outreach Subcommittee did not meet in July; in August, we'll discuss resources, priorities, timelines and outreach to diverse audiences.
- **Design Oversight Subcommittee Members:**
 - The Design Oversight Subcommittee is currently developing the urban framework; we had an informal brown-bag lunch last week to discuss content and we'll focus on Waterfront habitat in our next meeting.

- **City Staff:**
 - We're working on the appointment process for several new Committee members, including A. Kochen (AEG Live), T. Bancroft (People for Puget Sound) and E. Slaten (HDR Engineering), who are here today.

Discussion of Early Design Ideas

*Committee reviewed and referenced documents including: *"Toward a Great Waterfront" PowerPoint Presentation.*

Waterfront Updates

- **City Staff:**
 - Recent Waterfront updates:
 - The website now includes the May 19th presentation and positive press clippings from the event.
 - We're continuing to educate and gain public perspectives through briefings and festival events.
 - We're working with the Seattle Parks & Recreation Department to install temporary public art at Piers 62/63.
 - We're completing negotiations for a new 12-month contract for design, public outreach and related consulting services with our current team.
 - We're mapping the project through mid-2012 as the next phase of design work continues.
 - Recent Seawall updates:
 - We presented bookend alternatives to City Council at the end of April; the response was positive.
 - We've completed 10 percent design and are preparing to start 35 percent design.
 - We're coordinating with the Waterfront team on habitat to reach one alternative by this fall.
 - We're also continuing to coordinate with the Army Corps of Engineers.
 - We have a new brochure detailing the alternatives, which is available on the website.

Key Ideas: 3 Concepts at 3 Scales

- **City Staff:**
 - Through June 2012 our focus is on finishing the concept design phase and, at that point we'll know the Waterfront's future blueprint; in the short term, we're hoping to hear questions or concerns.

BELLTOWN BALCONY

- **Committee Members:**
 - What are the height limits in Belltown? Would development ruin the views? What happens to the parcels that would be left in Belltown after the Viaduct removal? What about a community center?
 - It's important to recognize that we're closing community centers all over Seattle; if that's part of the concept, we should be sure to study it in the context of feasibility and funding.
- **City Staff:**
 - Concerns have been raised regarding the preservation of view corridors; we're working to gather input from the City, Committee members and residents in Pioneer Square and Belltown.

COLMAN DOCK

- **Committee Members:**
 - Washington State Ferries is planning to renovate Colman Dock; has that discussion been part of this? They seem to be at a different spot.

- At Colman Dock and the pier there should be a way for people to cross north and back, activating the space and supporting commuters. How does Yesler Bridge integrate into that?
- Are zebra crossings signalized at Colman Dock? What does the freight community have to say about them? Are we in discussions and getting input from them about how that looks?
- **City Staff:**
 - D. Moseley from Washington State Ferries (WSF) is joining the Committee; their plans include pier upgrades and replacing the terminal. Staff have been working closely with WSF in the development of the conceptual ideas for Colman Dock; they take into consideration WSF’s plans for the future terminal replacement and changes to vehicle queuing.
 - We have not designed the surface street yet, although the concept has not changed in the several years; we’re balancing north to south connections with significant east to west crossings.
 - We have met with the North Seattle Industrial Association and their response was generally positive; we have a number of freight community representatives on our stakeholder group.

SCALE, FOLDS

- **Committee Members:**
 - Are we building on local activities or are we trying to create a place that will attract attention from the whole world? There is nothing yet to clarify that as a conscious act.
 - The folds are nice features, but it still seems pretty linear in between them.
- **Design Oversight Subcommittee Co-Chairs:**
 - The Design Oversight Subcommittee is aware of this and we’re thinking about opportunities between the commercial piers.

CONNECTIONS, STREET IMPROVEMENTS

- **Committee Members:**
 - There should be a better connection to Pioneer Square in the framework plan, because it’s an integral part of the southern link.
 - There also need to be better east to west connections that address the grade challenges—so people who are less mobile can easily get up and down the hills and make connections to major transportation hubs.
 - In the proposed update to the “Bridging the Gap” levy (the recommendations of CTAC III under consideration by City Council) there is nothing that relates to the Waterfront; won’t there be a lot of funding for street improvements?
- **City Staff:**
 - We are planning on having mechanical assistance for connections up the hill; we’re also looking at a stronger transit from Colman Dock and Madison Street.
 - City Council has been working on the proposal for months, which is separate from the Waterfront; there is a potential piece that would serve the Waterfront but it’s not yet explicit. This discussion will be completed in the next few months.

Programming

- **Committee Members & Co-Chairs:**
 - How will we utilize the festival site twelve months out of the year? We should think of opportunities easily convertible throughout the year and what kind of demand is out there to generate need.
 - The audience size needs to be proportionate to the event type; that should be part of the design element. We should also look at the capacity of all the open spaces?

- Also, are we flexible with activating the concert venue into Pioneer Square—will there be events be combined with programming?
- We should keep in mind that we’re not trying to duplicate activities in other neighborhoods, like Capitol Hill; the Waterfront will be a different crowd and they’ll go for different reasons.
- We also need to look at what brings people down on a daily basis, including the opportunity for real downtown recreation, which lends to our principle of a “Waterfront for All.”
- It’s important to think about the undercarriage; perhaps we have a place for food trucks to activate the space in front of the ferry terminal.
- It’s also important that we look at programming not as fundraising but as activating; we need think about of what we’re missing, should add or embellish—that’s an important next step for the Committee.

Next Steps on the Project

- **City Staff:**
 - We’ve taken a closer look at the project schedule over the next year. This is important to understand how our committee work will unfold as the project design is developed.
 - We’ll talk more about the schedule between now and June in the Subcommittee meetings.