



Barbara Wright, Co-Chair
Charlie Zaragoza, Co-Chair
Parks Legacy Citizen Advisory Committee
c/o Susanne Rockwell
Seattle Parks and Recreation
100 Dexter Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98109

Dear Ms. Wright and Mr. Zaragoza:

On behalf of the Central Waterfront Committee (CWC) I urge the Parks Legacy Citizens Advisory Committee (PLCAC) to maintain the \$3.51 million allocation for the future Central Waterfront public spaces that is in the PLCAC's Preliminary Prioritization of Investment Initiatives.

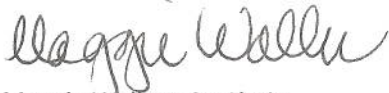
The CWC has been studying and planning for several years for the public space along the Seattle Waterfront that will be developed when the viaduct is removed. We see this space as a dynamic, active area that truly will become a signature space for Seattle and the region. As important as the design and development work is, planning for how to maintain the space and keep it safe and attractive is just as important. Our work has included an extensive review of public spaces throughout the country, both successful and struggling. We have also retained HR&A Advisors, a consulting firm that specializes in capital and operating funding strategies for great civic spaces. Our goal is to develop a diversified, sustainable funding plan to ensure the long term stewardship of the public areas of the new Waterfront. What is clear from both the consultants and the public spaces studied is that a base public funding commitment is essential for this successful stewardship.

The \$3.51 million represents this base public funding amount. It was determined by both the City's Waterfront project team in conjunction with Parks staff and independently by HR&A. The Strategic Plan developed by the CWC anticipates that this base amount will be supplemented by philanthropy and other sources of income. All of these sources will bring the level of operations, maintenance, security and programming to the higher level we anticipate for a park of this nature. Without the baseline public support, however, it will not be possible to bring the other sources needed to maintain and activate the areas as envisioned. Details of both the City's and HRA's work are available for your review.

We also understand the importance of maintaining and restoring the funding to existing parks and recreation facilities and consequently support the work of the Legacy Committee in developing a stable funding program for all park facilities in Seattle.

Thank you for your work on this important endeavor to create a mechanism that will sustain all of our beloved Seattle Parks and Recreation facilities, and to include the future Waterfront public space in your planning.

Sincerely,



Maggie Walker, Co Chair

Central Waterfront Committee



Charles Royer, Co Chair

Central Waterfront Committee