



Pioneer Square East West Streets Sounding Board Meeting #1

January 10, 2019

Waterfront Construction Offices – Polson Building, 626 Alaskan Way

Sounding Board

- Aaron Barthell – Intrigue Chocolates
- Adam Hasson – Samis Foundation
- Dan Wilson – Olson Kundig, Resident
- Jacqueline Gruber – Downtown Seattle Association
- Jen Petersen – Resident
- Kathleen Johnson – Historic South Downtown
- Kevin Law – AXIS Pioneer Square
- Megan Coombes – Altstadt Seattle & Meg's
- Ryan Smith – Martin Smith Inc.
- Tim Harris – Real Change News
- Yasuaki Saito – The London Plane

City of Seattle

- Marshall Foster – Office of the Waterfront & Civic Projects
- Steve Pearce – Office of the Waterfront & Civic Projects
- Brice Maryman – MIG|SvR
- Dave Rodgers – MIG|SvR
- Deepa Sivarajan – EnviroIssues
- Geena Nashem – Department of Neighborhoods

Alliance for Pioneer Square

- Lisa Howard
- Liz Stenning
- Karen True
- Sara Pizzo

Welcome and introductions

Marshall Foster (Director, Office of the Waterfront & Civic Projects) and Lisa Howard (Executive Director, Alliance for Pioneer Square) welcomed attendees and led a round of introductions. They explained that the purpose of the Sounding Board is to provide neighborhood feedback and guidance on the design priorities within the scope of the project, and advocate for the project with neighbors and other Pioneer Square stakeholders.

Presentation

Steve Pearce (Pioneer Square East West Streets Project Manager) began the presentation with a brief overview the Waterfront Seattle Program, with a focus on the planned waterfront improvements near Pioneer Square. He moved on to introduce the Pioneer Square East West Streets Project, which will design and construct pedestrian improvements on Main, Washington, King and Yesler streets between 2nd Ave S and Alaskan Way. Steve discussed the project's budget and funding, schedule, and opportunities and challenges.

Brice Maryman (Design Team Project Manager) then introduced the project team, led by MIG|SvR, and highlighted past experience by the firms in planning, engineering, transportation, and other projects in



Pioneer Square. Brice outlined goals of the Pioneer Square project and gave precedent examples from the Pacific Northwest and beyond that the design team will consider in their process.

The full PowerPoint presentation can be found at <https://goo.gl/chMF1m>.

Sounding Board discussion

Marshall Foster then opened the floor to the Sounding Board members to share reactions, questions, concerns.

Overall, Sounding Board members expressed excitement for the project and general support for the stated aims and goals of the project. In addition, Sounding Board members recommended that the project team and the Sounding Board should:

- Expand on a set of guiding principles or mission statement as a foundation for the Sounding Board's engagement with the design
- Acknowledge that Pioneer Square serves residents, visitors, people accessing social services, property owners, businesses, commuters and more, and that comfort and accessibility are needs for all
- Incorporate inclusion or equity as an explicitly-stated value, highlighting the need to consider a variety of diverse perspectives in Pioneer Square, including but not limited to indigenous communities, Asian-American communities, people experiencing homelessness, people with disabilities, and people of different socioeconomic levels
- Consider how nearby transit projects such as light rail expansion and Colman Dock renovation may affect existing uses of streets, such as changes in traffic patterns on east-west streets and new transit riders entering area
- Recognize that interventions will need to be strategic given budget limitations and leverage City connections for other potential resources, such as coordination with public utilities and funding for ADA compliance
- Design and construct improvements that are not only durable, but modular in nature, to facilitate maintenance of built features among other aging infrastructure
- Be creative with design; consider suggestions such as curbless streets while also recognizing the need to have design approved by Pioneer Square Historic Preservation Board
- Increase community outreach, including to underrepresented populations and to the community at large; consider public events, briefings and other forms of engagement

Closing and next steps

Steve Pearce and Marshall Foster thanked Sounding Board members for attending and noted that they would receive information about the next Sounding Board meeting by email. The Sounding Board is expected to meet next in early February, March and April.