3.2 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

**Core Projects**
Within the context of the broad, long-term vision of the Framework Plan, this report provides a Concept Design for a series of Core Projects. These Core Projects are the first step in realizing the Waterfront Seattle vision for several key reasons:

- **They can be built now.** The Core Projects use existing public property within public streets, public piers and the footprint of the Alaskan Way Viaduct, without significant new property acquisition by the City.

- **They lay a strong foundation.** The Core Projects include essential elements that must be built first, while leaving open opportunities for future generations to shape waterfront development down the road.

- **They are tangible and transformative.** The Core Projects provide generous new public parks, pathways, open spaces and recreational opportunities that will be useful and meaningful to the people of our region.

- **They can be realistically funded.** The Core Projects can be fully funded through an approach that combines private and public sources including downtown property owners, philanthropists and other private donors, non-profit partners, and public sources including funds already set aside by the State of Washington.

- **They support local partners and institutions.** The Core Projects enhance destinations such as the Seattle Aquarium, Pike Place Market, Colman Dock and the historic piers, as well as the surrounding neighborhoods and icons like Ivar’s.

These Core Projects are shown on the next page, “Core, Partner and Framework Projects” diagram and are further detailed within this Concept Design report.

**Project Schedule**
Completion of the vision for Waterfront Seattle will happen over time. While some Core Projects must wait until the Alaskan Way Viaduct is removed and its footprint is opened up, others can and will be built in the next two to three years. Longer-term Framework Plan elements are likely to be funded, designed and built in the following decade. This phased approach is needed due to the complex series of projects that will be underway along the waterfront over the next several years:

- Selected “early win” projects, such as improved east-west street connections, will be built in 2013-2014.

- The Seawall (Phase 1) will be replaced in 2013-2016, in advance of Alaskan Way Viaduct removal.

- Other basic infrastructure replacement, including Piers 62/63 and Union Street Pier, will be rebuilt in 2015-2017, overlapping with Seawall construction.

- Once the SR 99 Bored Tunnel opens in late 2015, the Alaskan Way Viaduct will be demolished in 2016.

- Once the Viaduct is removed, the new Alaskan Way and Elliott Way surface streets, pedestrian promenade, parks and open spaces will be built in 2016-2018.

**Long-term Stewardship**
The level of investment in and expected use of the Waterfront’s public spaces will require a high standard of long-term operations and maintenance. This will require strong partnerships and collaboration between the City of Seattle and waterfront organizations, businesses and property owners. A dedicated, non-profit organization will be needed to take on some of the long-term stewardship responsibilities associated with these public spaces. Locally, the Pike Place Market, Seattle Aquarium and Woodland Park Zoo all have such non-profit stewardship organizations.