OPEN SPACE
Creating a 100-Year Vision* for Seattle’s Green Spaces

Designing Compelling Public Places
Thursday, Nov. 17, 2005, 5:30-7 p.m.
Benaroya Hall, Nordstrom Recital Hall, 200 University St.
FEATURING: Mark Childs, Professor, School of Architecture and Planning, Univ. of New Mexico

Childs will discuss how vital public places can be designed to serve as centers of joyful celebration, heartbroken communion, civic discussion, or for simply hanging out. In his book, Squares: A Public Place Design Guide for Urbanists, he helps designers, planners, public officials, students, developers and community leaders understand the history and theories of public commons, elicit community dialogue and desires, respond to the natural and built environment, and design compelling places.

Creating Livable Cities with Urban Green Space
Monday, Dec. 5, 2005, 5:30-7 p.m.
Bertha Landes Room, Seattle City Hall, 600 Fourth Ave.
FEATURING: Mike Houck, Director Urban GreenSpaces Institute, Portland State Univ.

Houck will describe efforts to create a livable Portland-Vancouver metropolitan region through the enhanced protection and restoration of a vibrant green infrastructure. He will illustrate on-the-ground examples and tools the region is using to simultaneously ensure equitable access to nature, parks, trails and greenspaces; to maintain biodiversity; and to create higher density, compact urban form. These approaches include the Metropolitan Greenspaces Initiative, regional growth management strategies, and innovative watershed planning and stormwater management.

* These last two events in our 2005 Urban Sustainability Forum will help frame a community dialogue on our vision for open space that will continue into 2006 with an initiative called “Open Space Seattle 2100: Designing Seattle’s Green Network for the Next Century.” This initiative is a design and planning process to formulate a 100-year vision for Seattle’s comprehensive open space network that centers on a two-day visioning charrette, Feb. 3-4, 2006, sponsored by the University of Washington, Urban Land Institute, American Society of Landscape Architects, City of Seattle, and others.

For details on all forum events, visit www.seattle.gov/dpd/sustainability