IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT

Our unified goal is the implementation of the strategies and spatial patterns that emerged from the work of the participants in the Green Futures Charrette. By working with our existing coalition members in city government, the development community, the non-profit sector, our educational allies and neighborhood advocates, we believe that we can attain even the most ambitious visions of the Open Space Seattle coalition.

The following outlines our five key strategies for bringing the Green Futures' visions to fruition and identifies agencies and organizations that will play critical roles in stewarding this implementation.

1. Establish the Vision

In cooperation with a Mayor-appointed Green Infrastructure Task Force and an independent design consultant, the City should use the work of the charrette teams, additional public input and the ongoing efforts in our vibrant neighborhoods to further develop a visionary, long-range green infrastructure plan for Seattle's next century. This plan will chart a livable, sustainable course for clean air and climate protection, restored shorelines and clean water, robust forests parks, trails, open spaces and habitat corridors, and strong neighborhoods with connected civic elements. In short, we seek the re-establishment of Seattle as a mythic place on a sustainable planet.

For this reason, we have included a request in the 2007-2008 biennial budget for the following: Through community, consultant and city collaboration, further develop the 100-year Green Infrastructure Plan from the visions generated during the Green Futures Charrette and existing neighborhood plans, that spatially locates and integrates strategic green infrastructure investments and establishes a 20-year, near-term implementation strategy.

Key Organizations Responsible: City of Seattle Government, Outside Consultants, Green Infrastructure Task Force, Green Futures Charrette Participants, Open Space Seattle 2100/Green Futures Institute (UW), Seattle Great Cities Initiative.

2. Advocate for the Vision

From the beginning, the Open Space Seattle 2100 coalition has rallied around the idea of a long-term vision for Seattle's green infrastructure. With a long-term, city-wide vision in place, it will be up to each of the constituencies within the coalition to advocate to their leaders, elected representatives, neighborhood councils and others to popularize, embrace and adopt the long-term spatial plans and implementation mechanisms developed by the city/consultant partnership.For this reason, and to develop implementation strategies, we have made a request in the 2007-2008 budget for the City to establish a Green Infrastructure Task Force.

Key Organizations Responsible: Green Infrastructure Task Force, Seattle Great Cities Initiative, Non-profit partners, Neighborhood Organizations, Green Futures Charrette Participants and Open Space Seattle 2100 Coalition Members.

3. Adopt the Vision

Having a roadmap and making a journey are two very different propositions. At this critical juncture, it will be up to the City's leaders—with with support and expectations, pressure and prodding from Open Space Seattle 2100's non-profit partner non-profits, charrette participants and citizens—to take the ideas in the Green Infrastructure Plan and to root them within our comprehensive planning, civic, design, and land use cultures. However, this cannot be an add-on to existing city planning initiatives, but rather a complete integration into existing city planning efforts/

The adoption of this plan must not be the exclusive domain of our elected officials; it should be institutionalized within the City without being locked up. The panoply of urban livability proponents, neighborhood activists, "Friends of" groups, creek stewards, p-patch coordinators, mobility groups and others shall guide the implementation of the larger, city-wide vision within their local community.

Key Organizations Responsible: Mayor Gregory Nickels, Seattle City Council, Seattle Parks, DPD, SDOT, SPU, OSE, Parks Advocacy Organizations, Environmental Organizations, Seattle Great Cities Initiative, Neighborhood Councils, Green Futures Charrette Participants, Creek and Shoreline Stewardship Organizations, Bike and Pedestrian Mobility Organizations, Urban Agriculture Advocates

4. Fund the Vision

Without financial resources, this vision will remain unrealized. As with any large-scale municipal initiative, the leveraging of existing resources and the knitting together of beneficial partnerships will be key to successful implementation.

However, we do see two potential opportunities within the existing city budget to expedite the implementation of a citywide vision of integrated green infrastructure. The first involves reallocating existing resources around a systematic directive to make nominal investments in green infrastructure measures within each municipal project. From streets to community centers to new transportation projects, Seattle could henceforth make ecological open space a small portion of every project to create a system of green infrastructure.

Second, we see tremendous potential in a Green Infrastructure Levy that will fund all types of "Green Works," creating a model of interdepartmental cooperation for a sustainable City. Thus, we can work to install and expand walking and biking trails, sidewalks, natural drainage systems, riparian conservation easements, parks, p-patches, urban forests and other types of green infrastructure. For this reason we have made a budget request for the 2007-2008 budget that will begin planning for a Green Infrastructure Levy to replace the expiring Pro-Parks Levy.

Key Organizations Responsible: Green Infrastructure Task Force, Mayor Gregory Nickels, Seattle City Council, Seattle Voters, Key Non-profit and Private Partners

5. Implement the Vision

With a cohesive vision propelling us toward the next century of green infrastructure in the City, Seattle's reputation amongst the legions of worldwide urbanists seeking a greener, more progressive urbanism will soar. However, without implementation of this vision, our words and goals seem hollow.

The implementation of the vision will not happen overnight, and it will not happen without the support of all sectors. From city agencies to neighborhood groups, non-profits to developers, the implementation of a green infrastructure system will require the momentum of every constituency in the City. With grants, incentives and requirements, we can create a Future Seattle that has enduring beauty, utility and ecological integrity that will benefit our children and grandchildren for generations to come.

Slowly, parcel by parcel, we will create a system of green infrastructure for our grandchildren that will be the envy of urbanists the world over.

Key Organizations Responsible: Mayor Gregory Nickels, Seattle City Council, Seattle Parks, DPD, SDOT, SPU, OSE, Seattle Neighborhood Organizations, Development Partners, Parks Advocacy Organizations, Environmental Organizations, Green Futures Charrette Participants, Creek and Shoreline Stewardship Organizations, Bike and Pedestrian Mobility Organizations, Urban Agriculture Advocates and virtually every

constituency in the city

Strategies for Implementation from the Green Futures Charrette

The pebble has been dropped…how can we keep the ripples going? - Bert Gregory

Organize.
- Develop a Work Plan. Involve City departments, private and non-profit sectors. Develop 5 major strategies. Identify key issues in the realms of design, finance and governance. Identify long-term and short-term steps and milestones.
- Tie in with existing efforts, e.g. Cascade Agenda's Urban Working Group and their set of strategies, and the Great Cities project. Dovetail with existing City agendas, e.g. Mayor's Committee on Parks, Climate Protection, Development Impact Fee. Include non-traditional agencies that go beyond existing efforts, i.e. Public Health, Clear Air Agency, etc.
- Establish a City interdepartmental team to plan Seattle's integrated open space. Consider using existing Interdepartmental Team (Mayor's Subcabinet), with funds for staff research and development. Have interdepartmental team meet with public team quarterly.
- Establish allied organizations for study, advocacy, and implementation: a Green Futures Institute at the UW, a Green Futures non-profit, and interdepartmental teams at the City of Seattle.
- Maintain a coalition of organizations, each contributing their expertise.
- Work with Seattle School District to identify which properties have open space potential and value, which are being surplussed and can be purchased.

- Build a list of properties of interest for public acquisition, and evaluation criteria; check and re-collaborate every 5-10 years.
- Get grassroots neighborhood involvement
- Run a Green Seattle Slate for City Council

Adopt Policies and Regulations.
- City Council to adopt OSS 2100 Principles.
- Incorporate proposed strategies in the City, DoPar, and other departments' Comprehensive Plans.
- Institute Green Performance requirements for all redevelopment and new development.
- Conduct open space planning on a watershed basis.
- Make all street ends and privatized public spaces publicly accessible.
- Re-write cistern vs water-take legal definition to match runoff volume of natural conditions.
- Establish "Green Zones" with their own tax overlays and powers, e.g. City Center Green Development Authority. Authorities could establish a land bank to trade for properties that are desired for open space.
- Support new technologies for complementary uses, e.g. stormwater to generate power.
- Rezone to make cooperative ownership of block portions possible, e.g. "Greenblock." Re-evaluate single-family yard allotment; allow shared landscapes.
- Adopt policy aimed at stormwater treatment within ¼ mile of all waterways.
- Start aggressive process to naturalize streamsides and shorelands; use incentives to owners.

Conceptualize. Study. Plan. Design.
- Plan by watersheds, with neighborhoods contributing. Create a strategy to integrate watershed emphasis, incorporating restoration of shores, streamsides and acquisition of the most ecologically valuable properties.
- Engage diverse communities in charrette follow-up planning.
- Create a transportation plan that identifies priority green streets for every watershed.
- Perform a hard surface audit and identify which impervious surfaces can be eliminated or made permeable.
- Create street plans to guide new development in integrated, multi-functional green development corridors.
- Develop, or compile, a connected City-wide open space plan, for adoption as a 100-year vision. Include provisions for wildlife habitat, ecological function, and human use. Identify major themes at city scale and promote unique neighborshed-specific themes.   Create one big plan that tells our story and gives the plan underpinnings. Potential themes are: integrating nature into daily lives, connected open space, overall sustainability of system, increased ecological and watershed consciousness.
- Undertake a Gap study in connectivity between neighborhoods (professional contract).
- Identify existing assets and how those assets can become multi-functional or shifted to a new function.
- Establish an Open Space Commission (similar to the Planning Commission). (idea added after meeting, so no chance to vote on this one).

Advocate. Communicate. Analyze. Educate.
- Publish and promote visions, including analysis of ideas, priorities, benefits. Make a case for why it's important (See TPL fall issue editorial).
- Make certain that the "inclusive needs" goals are a part of this vision, involving diverse communities.

- Fund a comprehensive "Seattlecentric" ecological economics, e.g. logarithms to analyze development/ restoration costs.
- Get buy-in from public and private sectors.
- Encourage ownership through broad public education and make it interesting to capture imaginations; use artists to communicate.
- Analyze/demonstrate the benefits of the Green Futures plans, e.g. the economy of density which the green enables. Involve interdisciplinary departments from the UW. Consider software such as City Green (economic benefits of trees).
- Develop a Scorecard of successes to see progress, and to evaluate and prioritize decisions and strategies.
- Integrate all concepts into one graphic image, and poster it everywhere.
- Create a video of the project, or with examples of great green systems around the world. Create education program with it for schools.
- Identify process and citizen ownership strategy to obtain citizen and political backing.

Fund. Create Incentives.
- Re-institute use of Dept. of Neighborhood funds for acquisition, including acquisition of ecologically valuable property.
- Direct funds from CSO overhaul to stormwater projects that are multi-functional.
- Pass a Green Infrastructure Levy that funds integrated parks, streets, drainage projects, with equitable project distribution.
- Integrate percent for green space in all major public works projects: streets, drainage, bridges.
- Implement a Green Factor Area point system like Copenhagen's.
- Create more property through zoning--e.g. density, allowed uses, bonuses-- accompanied by public open space.
- Use higher density to generate more funds for open space through impact fees.
- Consider independent political authority (e.g. Vancouver B. C. Parks Commission), e.g. "Public Realm Commission"
- Identify how you can use a combination of development with open space, e.g. waterfront.
- Tie Green to overall Economic Health: technology transfer; license, profit, ideas into economy. Seattle's technology image: Partner with software component. Manufacturing for sustainable building sector: products, construction training. Attract sustainable business to region.
- TDRs for moving development from ecologically sensitive and hazardous to urban hubs and urban villages. (Need functional market for TDRs, incentives, stability.)
- Develop public-private partnerships.
- Actively seek funding for brownfield remediation sites for open space.
- City to purchase neighborhood-generated power with funds going back to neighborhood.
- Offer incentives for green roofs and rainwater harvest.
- Tax relief for use of sites for urban agriculture.
- Institute toll sites, e.g. roads for green infrastructure.
- Other mechanisms:

Institute sales tax for integrated open space
Use gas tax for highway lidding.
Use the REET (Real Estate Excise Tax)
Institute development fee to fund green infrastructure/fee waivers for green infrastructure.
Adopt Tax Increment Financing - (Draft bill in process to state).
Create Neighborhood Local Improvement Districts (LID)
Tax non-renewable practices, waste, lot coverage, impervious surfaces, parking lots; use fees to fund incentive programs for renewable energy, open space, natural drainage.

Get started.
- Identify some immediate, representative projects. Pick near-term, tangible demonstration projects to serve as examples, catalysts, and incentives, connecting to the Open Space Seattle 2100 vision. Possibly:
- Projects in Center City, using Impact Fees.
- Madison Transect/Lake to Bay (incorporates diverse communities)
- SE Action Agenda: McClelland.
- Select 3 types, e.g. Private, Public, Public-Private Partnership.
- Existing single-family blocks: share back yards
- Paint blue on streets with underground streams.
- Streets that are bicycle and electric-car priority.
- Rights of ways (green drainage, pedestrian corridors)
- Add elements to transportation levy
- Create 10,000 project campaign, with each project connecting to others

Build in Stewardship and Public Use.
- Establish stewardship zones.
- Establish green technology zones.
- Establish seasonal restrictions for select habitat areas.
- Expand bicycle Saturdays and Sundays.

Implementation Strategies

Metathemes and Themes from the Green Futures Charrette

Concept: The Living Lattice, Network of Neighborsheds

	Central					
	Madison	Magnolia / Interbay / Queen Anne	Lake Union	Downtown	Arboretum	Lake Washington
Integrated, Connected Green Infrastructure						
• Aggregation of Open Space to Create Connections and Urban Greenways			x			x
• Multi-functional Open Space	x	x	x	x	x	
• Redefined Transportation Corridors	x	x	x	x	x	x
Density and Community						
• New Urban Villages with Civic Hearts	x	x	x		x	
• Green Roofs and Walls	x		x	x	x	
• Decentralized Self-Sufficiency	x		x		x	x
Ecological Open Space						
• Understand the City as Watersheds	x	x	x	x	x	x
• Respect for Underlying Conditions		x		x		
• Re-establish Historic Streams		x	x			
• Restore Shorelines for Habitat	x	x		x		x
• Recreate Natural Drainage to Restore Our Waters	x	x	x	x	x	
• Enhance Greenbelts and Habitat Networks		x	x		x	x
Access and Use						
• Equality in Accessibility			x		x	x
• Increased Access to Water	x	x	x	x		x
• Open Space for Education/Schools for Open Space				x		
• Hierarchy and Variety of Open Space	x	x	x	x	x	

Appendices

			North						South			
Northwest	Thornton Creek	Sandpoint	Ballard / Ship Canal	Greenlake	Greenlake / University	University District	West Seattle	Longfellow Creek	Duwamish	Rainier Valley	Rainier Beach	Taylor Creek
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	x		x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	
		x		x			x	x	x		x	
x		x		x		x		x	x	x		
			x			x		x	x	x	x	
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
x	x						x	x				x
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
			x				x	x	x		x	x
	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x		
x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x				
					x				x	x	x	x
x	x	x	x			x	x	x			x	x
x			x	x			x	x				x
x	x	x			x	x				x	x	

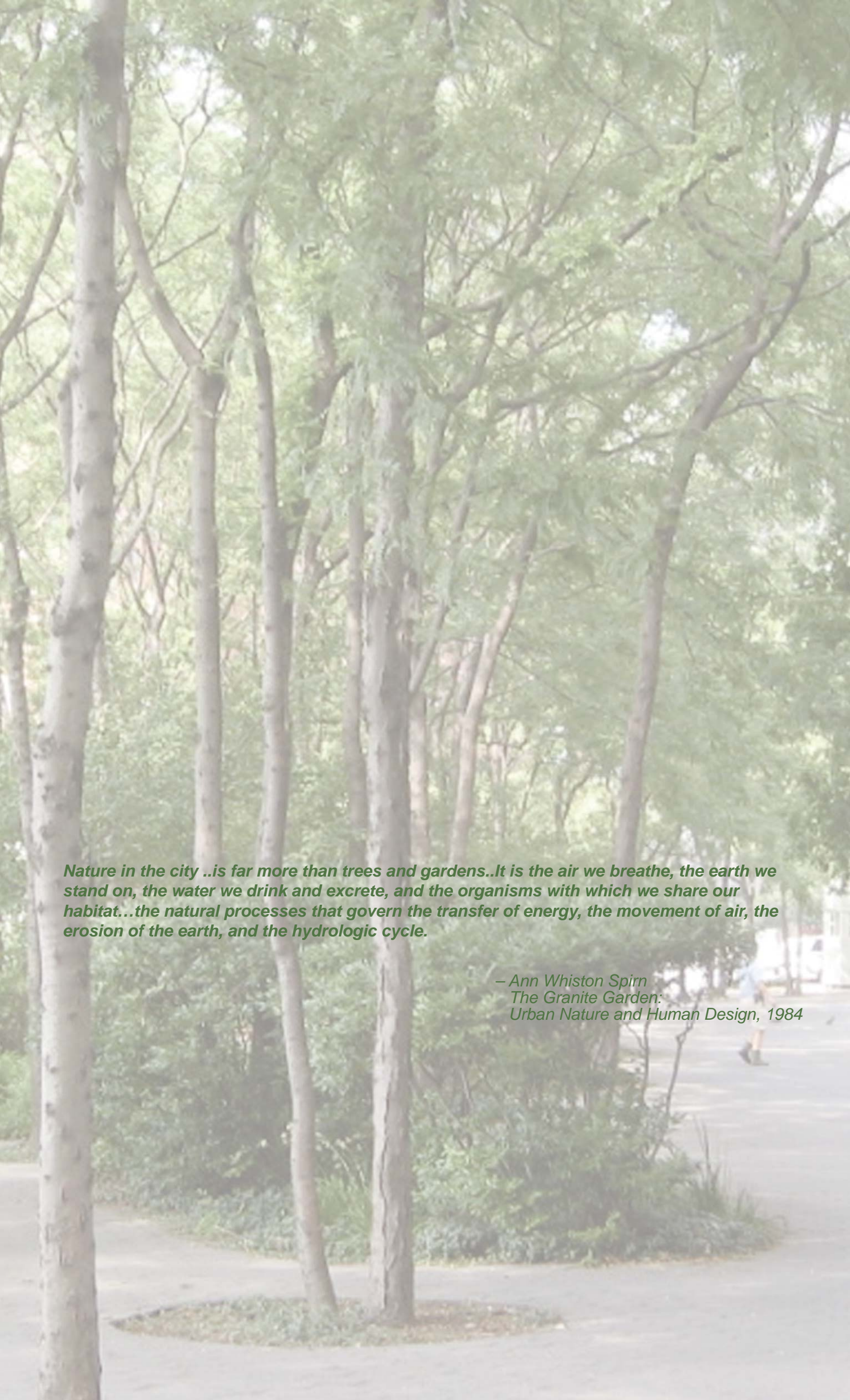## Ecological Function and Integrity Scorecard
Open Space 2100 Design Charette, Feb 3 and 4, 2006

SEATTLE PARKS AND RECREATION

City of Seattle

Charette Team Name: _____

Design intent:	Open space features and characteristics that contribute to design intent:	Degree achieved (circle) Highest ——— Lowest
Increase the extent, diversity and connectivity of **terrestrial and aquatic habitats** and promote **species diversity** and abundance.	a) Forest canopy and green belts are well-connected (minimal fragmentation) with appropriate canopy volume for the land use	a) 3 2 1
	b) Streams are buffered by riparian corridors with room for channel migration and for flood plain storage of water and sediments, as adjacent uses allow	b) 3 2 1
	c) Green belts connect terrestrial, riparian, aquatic habitat areas	c) 3 2 1
	d) Interior or core habitat, including stands of trees and understory, provide ample bird and wildlife habitat	d) 3 2 1
	e) Edge habitat areas are serving as transitions between habitat types, including between terrestrial and coastal-marine habitat	e) 3 2 1
	f) Falling leaves and seasonal mulching adds organic matter to depleted soils	f) 3 2 1
	g) Tree and plant selection provides for year-round foliage and habitat value	g) 3 2 1
	h) Shore edges provide protection for nesting waterfowl	h) 3 2 1
Minimize water use and stormwater runoff to promote healthy water bodies and streams.	i) Open water bodies (lakes, bays, and canals) are integrated as essential elements of the City's open space system	i) 3 2 1
	j) Bio-swales, natural drainage, detention areas and absorptive surfaces (geo-sculpting, soil amendments, green roofs and tree canopies) slow, treat and infiltrate rainwater	j) 3 2 1
	k) Landscaping elements are drought-tolerant and emphasize natives; lawn and planting areas that require post-establishment irrigation are minimized	k) 3 2 1
	l) Rainwater harvest and storage facilities incorporated where irrigation is needed	l) 3 2 1
	m) Landscaping features are selected to require minimal pesticides; especially adjacent to aquatic habitats	m) 3 2 1
	n) Pavement is minimal -- and permeable where the soils and usage patterns allow	n) 3 2 1
	o) Vehicle parking areas are sited to avoid water contamination of adjacent water bodies or wetlands	o) 3 2 1
Lighten human impacts by reducing resource use, waste generation and emissions.	p) 'Active transportation' corridors facilitate and encourage pedestrian, bicycle and other non-motorized modes of travel	p) 3 2 1
	q) Development adjacent to 'active transportation' corridors includes employment, housing, essential retail, recreation and entertainment destinations to reduce demands on existing transportation infrastructure	q) 3 2 1
	r) Decentralized renewable energy generation capacity is integrated	r) 3 2 1
	s) Food production capacity helps reduce food importation	s) 3 2 1
	t) Tree canopy coverage is expanded to achieve Citywide tree canopy cover goals, increasing street-level comfort	t) 3 2 1
Reveal ecological functions – help **connect** residents to surroundings.	u) Daily and seasonal natural cycles (hydrological, tidal, solar, etc.) are expressed in the aesthetics of the built environment	u) 3 2 1
	v) Interpretive features convey how ecological concepts and habitat types are manifested locally	v) 3 2 1
	w) Art, in conjunction with the natural and built environment, fosters human's physical, emotional and spiritual connections to nature	w) 3 2 1
	x) Sense of place is reinforced through public and private developments	x) 3 2 1
Cross-cutting	y) Streets and whole rights-of-way are utilized to maximize ecological functions throughout the public realm	y) 3 2 1

Total score: _____

Nature in the city ..is far more than trees and gardens..It is the air we breathe, the earth we stand on, the water we drink and excrete, and the organisms with which we share our habitat…the natural processes that govern the transfer of energy, the movement of air, the erosion of the earth, and the hydrologic cycle.

– Ann Whiston Spirn
The Granite Garden:
Urban Nature and Human Design, 1984

OPEN SPACE SEATTLE 2100
Designing Seattle's Green Network for the next century

Nancy Rottle and Brice Maryman, co-directors
open2100@u.washington.edu
206.543.9240
Department of Landscape Architecture
University of Washington
348 Gould Hall, Box 355734
Seattle WA 98195