

Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee (ABGC) Minutes **Graham Visitors Center, Washington Park Arboretum – October 10, 2018**

The Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee is a Joint effort of the Arboretum Foundation, Seattle Parks and Recreation, and the University of Washington, and designated by Seattle City Council Ordinance 65130, approved December 27, 1934, and Ordinance 116337, approved September 8, 1992.

Voting Members

Arboretum Foundation

- Jane Stonecipher, Arboretum Foundation Executive Director
- Jason Morse, Arboretum Foundation Board President

City of Seattle

- Kenan Block, Mayoral Appointee
- Michael Shiosaki, Seattle Parks, Projects & Planning Division, Director
- James Fearn, Mayoral Appointee

University of Washington

- Sally Clark, University of Washington, Director of Regional and Community Relations
- Fred Hoyt, University of Washington Botanic Gardens (UWBG), Acting Director
- *Excused*, Iain Robertson, University of Washington, Associate Professor, Dept. of Landscape Architecture

Other Staff Present:

- Rachel Acosta, Seattle Parks and Recreation, ABGC Coordinator
- Wendy Gible, University of Washington Botanic Gardens, Assistant Director
- Jon Jainga, Seattle Parks and Recreation, Natural Resources Unit Manager
- *Excused*, Michael Bradshaw, University of Washington Botanic Gardens

Standing Committees

Master Plan Implementation Group (MPIG):

AF: Jane Stonecipher & Jason Morse

City: Michael Shiosaki (lead) & Kim Baldwin

UW: Fred Hoyt/Wendy Gible

SR520 Technical Committee:

City: David Graves; UW: Fred Hoyt

Call to Order

Sally calls the meeting to order at 8:35am. She asks for approval of the agenda: James moves, Michael seconds, and Sally abstains. The Agenda and September minutes are approved.

Update: WSDOT SR520 Project

Dawn Yankauskas, WSDOT; Amanda Sei, SDOT; David Graves, SPR

April updates to Montlake project; neighborhood traffic mgmt. plan;

Dawn reviews the outline for her presentation.

SR520 program overview and timeline

Rest of the west – construction to begin in early 2019; from floating bridge west to i-5.

No design changes since April presentation for the Montlake project. Multimodal hub, land bridge connection between arboretum and east Montlake park; removing eastbound on-ramps in the arboretum. Construction starting in 2019.

Amanda Sei - Interagency project manager with SDOT. Overview of traffic mgmt. plan

Implemented 4 projects to calm traffic in Montlake area;

- o Installed speed humps on 25th and 26th ave east – in an effort to discourage cut through traffic and reduce speeds.
- o Installed traffic island at lk wa blvd and east miller- prevents traffic from entering miller
- o Curb extention at lk wa blvd and east Roanoke – to prevent illegal turns
- o Widen sidewalk at Montlake at Shelby andhamlin for peds and bicyclists

9/24 met with ABGC to discuss proposed relocated cell tower; workg with tenants to relocate cell tower; through analysis that would cover the area is next to staging area on the wsdot peninsula. Wsdot helping them to get permitted through sdc. 125 foot fir tree cell tower – workg with ray Larsen to help blend the screening in to the surrounds. Ray will provide lay out and list of vegetation. It is a temporary relocation; finalygz a lease with crown to move after construction ends. Have cmtmts to work with parks for property transaction to transfer wsdot peninsula to spr.

Land use sign has been posted; sdc will send public notice for the permit application public comment period. Sdc is aware of the concerns. Wsdot is working on design visualizations. What color does the abgc envision the monopole to be?

Wsdot does not know where the permanent site will be yet because they do not have a design/build contractor yet.

Montlake project next steps

Announcing best proposer – start construction in early 2019 and will continue for 4-5 years.

Rest of the west update –

Sr520/i-5 express lanes connects i-5 express lanes to 520.
Transit/hov connection to south lake union by 2023

Portage bay bridge and Roanoke lid portion to start in 2023 and will last approx. 6 years.
Montlake cut bascule bridge project – design process for this and portage bay project

City council wants bike/ped for 2nd bascule bridge and wsdot will need to work with stakeholders.

Funding goes out to 2029

Ramps come out during the Montlake phase of the project. Don't have a specific date until the contractor comes on board.

The signals are not interconnected on Montlake; they are working to get the signals to coordinate which will alleviate some congestion. Optimization of lights will start in spring of 2019.

To get the signals to communicate there is hardware and conduits that need to be run. Spring summer more bridge openings that causes more traffic.

Next steps for wsdot/abgc coor

Foster island undercrossing coor – Montlake project will finish the planting and relocation of the trail; as they are workg with contractor – uw and spr will be involved in the task force to provide feedback; tribes will be included in the communications. Irrigation under the bridge will happen year round.

Looking for grants to fund elements of the north entry projects; grant opps for daylighting arb creek and the roundabout.

Wetland mitigation;-) plantgs in area that coordinate with the arb; will work with abgc on plant selection. Work with spr on prop transaction to transfer land.

Lookg forward to announcement about the design/build

Interest in traffic management issues, cell tower placement;

Dawn will reach out and provide updates on traffic management plan.

Dawn clarifies that the cell tower will be moved to the wsdot right of way

What is the mechanism that ensures it is a temporary location

Air space lease/commitment with abgc and north entry; section 106 would not allow it; property transfer – not allwed on spr property. They will have to remove facilities and restore it to original condition.

>>> have wsdot back in 6 months

Presentation: Education Building Design

Leah davis, mithun and Susanne rockwell –

Spr, uw and arb foundation partnership

Started this project about a year ago; hired mithun in march to create a pre-design – conceptual drawing; looking for a location and design. Implementing the parking as outlined in master plan; 109 total parking spots and bus layover for 4 busses.

Working closely with mpig

Having a public mtg in either early nov./dec. will let the abgc know.

Started doing 9 focus groups with education staff; parents; rental staff; volunteer groups and MPIG;

Provided baseline of programmatic needs

Expand education program -allow for teacher workspace; accommodate school groups; generate revenue/ multi-purpose space for events and a café.

Biggest challenge deciding on square footage; minimize impacts to collection; how to create a campus feel.

Preferred building program – public space/learning space and outdoor covered space; preferred building program is 10,000 sq feet;

Buildg concept; nurse log – demonstration site using sustainability embedded

3 options for building site and parkg config.

Duck bay connections – currently maintenance and ed bldg. location; they would be moved to where dirt piles are. Linear arrangement of parkg adjacent to Broadmoor fence; stormwater collection b/w parking and learning center;

Using wood;

Arboretum drive is pedestrian and trying to keep it that way; allowing for ada access;

Currently the nursery, sun house and green house will be relocated;

Buses are parked on arb drive

Building provides internal courtyard opp for learning; strong connection to gvc.

Linear option – built south of gvc; shared patio with gvc; stillhave horizontal parking next to

Strong connection to trails;

Greenhouse/nursery close to where it is now; maintenance stay in current location.

Café/multi-use space facing courtyard and gvc; education area facing the other way.

Meadow – bldg. spills out into meadow; many edu program happens there; meandering path through hillside to gvc.

Stormwater expression smaller but runs through parking lot. Busses parking are integrated into main parking lot. Grade changes b/w gvc and education bldg.

Learning node facing the meadow; other side facg gvc would have café and multi-purpose room.

One concept to go through capital campaign for fundraising, business plan; construction to take place after there are

Natural light? because this is a darker area. Duck bay maximizes the day light.

Before capital campaign what stage will the project be in?

Public engagement process and design phase after funding has been appropriated from city council. There is flexibility. Forward design further to get better cost estimates and find donors. Business plan for ongoing maintenance and staff needs; in agreement about what city and uw would each be responsible for.

Which model would be better for having a café and making money? Circulation and parking trade-off with keeping people off arb drive; are there strong feelings one way or the other?
The use of arb drive would be

Add'l costs associated with duck bay option.

Site work – huge retaining wall to get 10 extra spots?

Meadow has more impervious surfaces and concrete costs.

Linear has large retaining walls to hold up the hillside.

Kenan likes the green/sustainable and teaches about environmental education. Are working toward a living building.

They talk about event spaces and how competing events spaces

Objective of public meeting – to get stakeholder input on pre-design.

Only have capacity to do renderings on one.

The 109 parking spaces are a result of the master plan.

In the masterplan they had the education building on the west side of the gvc.

Discussion about what size of the building would be best? Want to adhere to the intent of the master plan, minimize public bad feelings, and make sure to stay within scope of the master plan.

Teacher work/space – expanded teaching staff capacity; communal area to do lesson prep; store teaching materials

Lab/classroom – need to have kids inside for air quality or emergency situation it's good to have indoor space.

Budget, Personnel and Other Items

University of Washington

Interviews for youth education super – hope to have someone in position by mid-november;

Uwbg director search – no new news.

Seattle Parks and Recreation

middle of budget process; responding to council questions; budget will be approved around thanksgiving;

5% cut to spr; costg city more to do business; mayor has other priorities; addg more police and firefighters.

Arboretum Foundation

jane is gone for most of the month in Japan.

Master Plan Implementation Group

monopole – abgc could send a letter; sdc planner contacted Michael; crown castle proposed a monopole, city encouraged them to do the monofir. Unless friends of seattle's Olmsted parks and abgc partners write letters to put in a monopole instead of a monofir.

No one loves telecommunications infrastructure, the location of the monopole would stand out. David graves will draft a letter. Their needs to be language in the letter with the expectation of not leaving a tower on parks property after lease is expired. Strong comtmt that this is temporary. Dark green matte color

Cell tower Lease – the permit is permanent not temporary;

Montlake - Julie Meredith told uw they are starting 2nd bascule bridge in 2022;

Master plan priority project list.

New addition – rough estimate costs for some of them.

The list provides guidance to arb fdn as they talk with potential donors; helps the abgc decision factors;

Alt – closing out with final punch list items. Working on boyer crosswalk ramp; looking for a contractor.

Moving forward into permitting for waterfront trail work. Michael will bring forward a schedule at a future meeting.

Old/New Business

Tree Ordinance letter – draft letter asking to be exempted from the tree ordinance; keep the intent of the letter clear.

Michael to schedule a meeting with Nathan at SDCI.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourns at 10:15 a.m.

APPROVED _____ DATE _____
Sally Clark, ABGC Chair